

	JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES	Initial: 10-05-2007 Revised:
	SOP#: FIRE 3-05	
	Subject: UHF Radio System	

UHF RADIO SYSTEM

A. PURPOSE

This policy presents the procedure to be followed by the communications center and field personnel while utilizing the Jefferson County Department of Emergency Services UHF radio system.

B. PROCEDURE

1. The Jefferson County Department of Emergency Services ultra-high band radio system consists of seven (7) regional repeaters and five (5) simplex fire ground channels.
2. All fire units are to report enroute on UHF fire dispatch. It will be imperative to keep radio traffic on this channel to an absolute minimum, as transmissions will be broadcasted simultaneously over all county radio towers. Units are not to report enroute on a regional repeater.
3. As units, including line officers report enroute on dispatch, the 9-1-1 center will individually assign a regional repeater to each unit for on-scene operations. Units are not to report enroute on a regional repeater, this is confusing for the dispatchers and may interfere with operational orders.
4. When acknowledging a unit going enroute or on-scene, the dispatcher will refrain from giving a "blind 10-4". Dispatchers are to "mirror" or repeat back the action taken by a particular unit. There is no need to give times to individually responding fire apparatus.

Ex:

Engine 19: "Jefferson County, Engine 19 responding"

Dispatcher: "Engine 19 responding, operations Hays Lot"

The current Jefferson County regional repeaters are as follows:

- Maplevale
- Hays Lot
- Boone Mountain
- Clover Run
- Snyder Hill
- Coolspring
- Fire tower

5. Dispatchers will assign regional repeaters and simplex channels for operations depending on the geographical location of said fire incident.

For example, Brookville would be assigned Maplevale, Brockway would be assigned Boone, Punxsutawney departments would be assigned Snyder Hill, Etc

For multiple company responses, the home companies regional repeater shall be assigned for operations.

6. Jefferson County utilizes (5) five simplex (radio to radio) channels for fireground operations:

- Fireground 3
- Fireground 4
- Fireground 5
- County Ops
- JC Traffic control

7. If needed, the OIC shall request additional simplex fire ground channels for fire police, tanker shuttles, interior operations, etc. When requesting fire ground channels, the OIC shall contact the 9-1-1 center on the assigned regional repeater and advise the dispatcher on the number of fire ground channels requested. Based on availability, the dispatcher will assign the simplex channel (s) to the OIC.
8. Once a fire ground channel has been assigned, the dispatcher shall document this on fire ground chart located behind the Fire / EMS console.
9. The communications center only monitors dispatch and regional repeaters, **simplex channels are not monitored by the communications center.**