

	CLEARFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / 9-1-1 Standard Operating Procedures	Initial: 03/2011
	SOP #: 7 31	Revised:
	Subject: MAYDAY Situations	

MAYDAY Policy and Procedure

The MAYDAY policy is designed to designate an emergency when a firefighter(s) become injured, trapped, disoriented, distressed or in need of immediate assistance for any life threatening emergency. Any firefighter or any fellow firefighter witnessing such a situation may declare a MAYDAY. The Incident Commander may also declare a MAYDAY emergency if he/she feels firefighters have become distressed for the same reasons and may be unable to communicate.

MAYDAY will be the only radio signal used for any distressed firefighter needing assistance for any reason. No other term shall be substituted. The term MAYDAY should only be used in the event of an actual emergency, not for training purposes or non-life threatening situations.

Procedure:

- Upon receipt of a MAYDAY, the telecommunicator will activate the MAYDAY tone and broadcast the MAYDAY announcement over the Fireground channel in use as well as the Dispatch channel. The Telecommunicator will move all fire ground operations to another fire ground channel with the exception of units working on the MAYDAY emergency.

Example: Activate MAYDAY tone and announce: "A MAYDAY has been declared. All MAYDAY units at State Street Command have priority on FireGround 11. All other units are ordered to move to FireGround 12 for operations".

- Incident Command shall obtain the following information from the person transmitting the MAYDAY whenever possible:
 - Location -- (floor, division, room, side of building, etc.)
 - Problem -- (trapped, lost, out of air, etc.)
 - Needs -- (hoseline, ladder, shovels, spare cylinders, rescue tools, etc.)
- The Communications Center should monitor all FireGround channels for any MAYDAY emergencies. In poor radio coverage areas, the Communications Center may hear the radio transmission over other field units. In that event, the Communications Center shall attempt to obtain MAYDAY information to re-broadcast.
- A second ambulance unit shall be dispatched to the scene. An ALS unit shall immediately be dispatched if not already on scene. Incident Command shall be advised when the EMS unit is enroute.
- When the MAYDAY situation has been resolved, Incident Command should notify the Communications Center. The Communications Center shall announce over the dispatch and fireground channels that MAYDAY event has been concluded and traffic can return to normal operations.