

# RUTHERFORD COUNTY FIRE COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES

## TERMINOLOGY

1. No Ten Codes / Plain English will be utilized.

## FIRE GROUND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Command will designate the operating frequency for the fire scene.
2. All personnel and apparatus upon arriving on the scene will switch over to that frequency.
3. This also includes water supply operations.
4. The Incident Commander SHOULD BE THE ONLY ONE to communicate with dispatch on the County Fire Net.

## TIME

1. The 24 hour time system will be utilized in Rutherford County Fire Communications.

## RADIO COURTESY

1. Personnel should demonstrate common courtesy when using the county radio system.
2. There are a large number of users of this system. No fire department has the absolute right of usage of any channel.
3. Radio courtesy is stressed, and all fire department members and PSAP dispatchers are asked to demonstrate such courtesies when using the radio system.

Some courtesies include:

- Ensuring frequency is clear prior to transmitting.
- Keeping unnecessary and/or objectionable conversation off the air.
- Speaking in a calm professional manner at all times.

It is understood that during particularly stressful times, transmissions may not reflect the ultimate in radio procedures and practices. Rude and questionable comments WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Situations that occur should be discussed after the incident. The Fire Coordinator and the affected department Chief will work together to resolve any and all issues.

## DISPATCHERS

1. Dispatchers have the authority and responsibility to assign fire departments to alternate frequencies when multiple events are occurring in the County.
2. Dispatchers may assign a fire department to North Net / South Net, etc... in order to relieve channel congestion.
3. If any fire unit does not respond to the dispatcher's directions or requests, the dispatcher shall immediately notify the Fire Coordinator.