

Yamhill Fire Protection District

District Policies, Procedures, & SOG's

MISSION

*Yamhill Fire Protection District is dedicated to
serve and protect our community*

District Procedure

OPERATIONS

OPS-GEN – 411.1

Command and Control

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMAND

The IC is responsible for the completion of incident priorities. The incident priorities are:

1. Provide for the safety, accountability, and Welfare of personnel. This priority is ongoing throughout the incident.
2. Provide for life safety by removing endangered occupants and treat the injured.
3. Stabilize the incident.
4. Conserve property (loss stopped).

The Incident Management System is used to facilitate the completion of the tactical priorities. The IC is the person who drives the Incident Management System towards that end. The IC is responsible for building a command structure that matches the organizational needs of the incident. The completion of the tactical priorities for the incident are achieved through this process.

FUNCTIONS OF COMMAND

The functions of command are standard activities performed by the IC to achieve the tactical priorities. The functions of command include:

- Assume and announce Command and establish an effective operating position (Command Post) as soon as possible
- Rapidly evaluate the situation (size up)
- Initiate, maintain, and control the communications process
- Identify the overall strategy, develop an Incident Action Plan, and assign companies and personnel consistent with plans and standard operating guidelines
- Develop an effective incident management organization

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- Provide tactical objectives
- Review, evaluate, and revise (as needed) the incident action plan
- Provide for the continuity, transfer, and termination of Command

The IC is responsible for all of these functions. As command is transferred, so is the responsibility for these functions. The first five (5) functions should be addressed immediately from the initial assumption of command.

ESTABLISHING COMMAND

The First Fire Department resource/company to arrive at the scene of incidents shall assume command. The initial IC shall remain in command until command is transferred or the incident is stabilized and terminated.

The First resource/company on the scene shall utilize the Incident Management System to effectively manage the incident scene. A single company incident (trash fire, single patient EMS incident, etc.) may only require that resource/company acknowledge their arrival on the scene. For incidents that require the commitment of multiple companies, the First resource/company on the scene shall establish and announce "Command", and develop an organizational structure appropriate for the incident.

The first arriving resource/company should activate the command process by giving an initial radio report on the YCOM assigned channel, followed by specific information to responding personnel on the YCOM assigned channel. The dispatcher and all companies shall be advised when Command will be using a TAC channel for initial communications. The initial radio report should include the following as needed:

- Unit designation
- A brief description of the incident situation (building size, occupancy, Haz Mat release, multi-vehicle accident, etc.)
- Obvious conditions (working fire, Haz Mat spill, multiple patients, etc.)
- Brief description of action taken
- Declaration of Strategy (applicable for structure fires)
- Any obvious safety concerns
- Assumption, identification, and location of command
- Request or release of resources as required

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The radio designation “Command” or “IC” shall be used along with a geographic or recognizable location of the incident (see examples). This designation will not normally change throughout the incident and shall remain with the officer currently in command.

EXAMPLES:

OFFENSIVE STRUCTURE FIRE:

“Engine 42 is on the scene of a two story High School with a working fire on the second floor. Engine 42 has laid a supply line and is attacking the fire with a 1 ¾ inch hand line. This is an offensive fire. Engine 42 will be Y-C Command on OPS 1.”

DEFENSIVE STRUCTRE FIRE:

“Engine 42 is on the scene of a fully involved one story office building. Engine 42 has laid a supply line and is setting up a master stream operation. This is a defensive fire. I need a 2nd Alarm with, Staging set up at Station 4 on 2nd and Olive Street. Engine 42 will be Hwy 47 Command on OPS 1.

EMS INCIDENT:

“Rescue 4 is on scene of a three (3) vehicle accident with multiple victims. Respond two (2) additional Ambulances. Rescue 4 will be Hwy 47 on County Fire.”

SINGLE COMPANY INCIDENT

Engine 42 is on scene of a working care fire. Engine 42 can handle.

COMMAND OPTIONS:

When the first arriving resource/company takes command at an incident, there are several options available depending on the situation. If a Chief Officer or other unit without tactical capabilities (staff vehicle, utility vehicle, etc.) takes command, the establishment of command should be a top priority. At most incidents, the first IC will be a Company Officer. The following command options define the Company Officer's direct involvement in tactical activities and the types of command that may be utilized.

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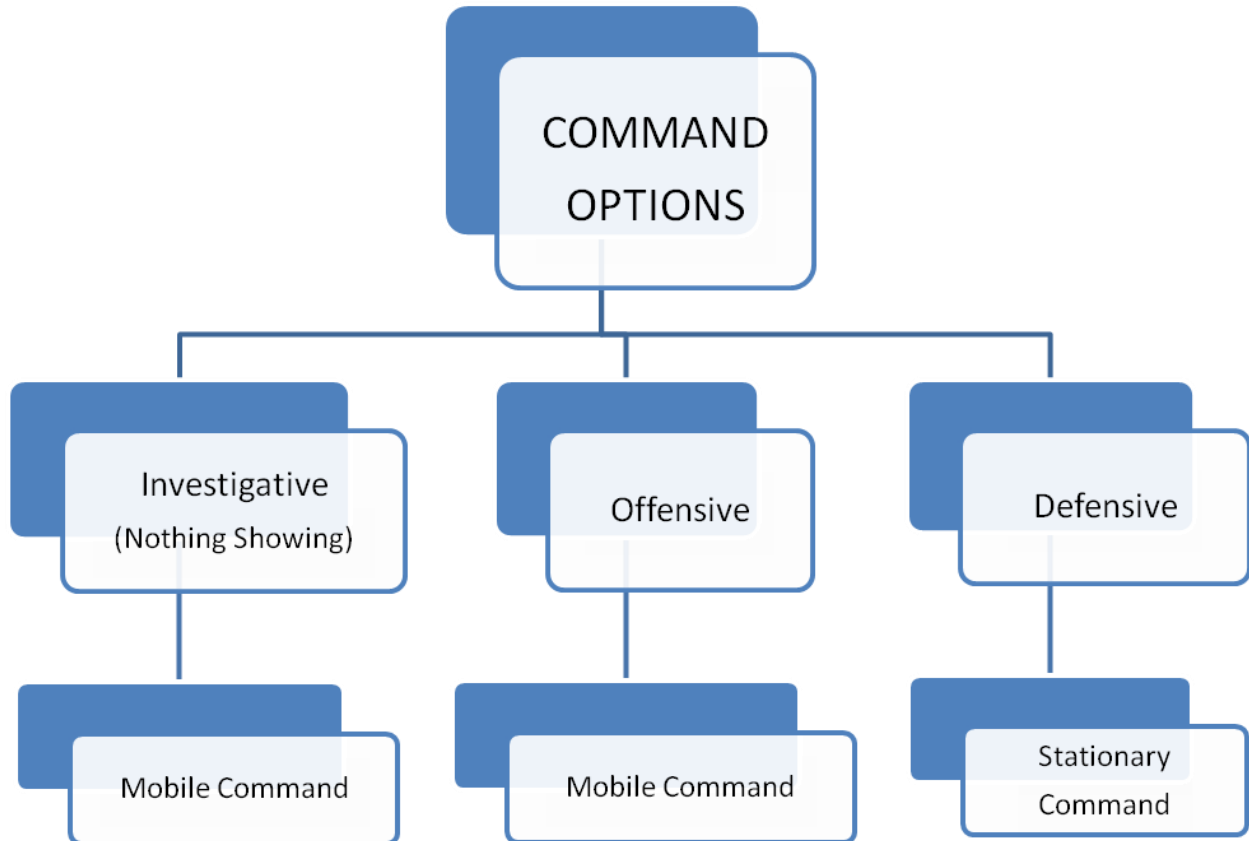
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INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS (Nothing Showing)

These situations generally require investigation by the first arriving company while other resources remain staged a block away in the direction of travel. The Officer will go with the company to investigate while utilizing a portable radio on a channel assigned by YCOM to command the incident.

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS (Mobile Command)

These operations require immediate action to stabilize the incident and cannot be accomplished without the Company Officer's direct involvement in the fire attack, or in the case of a multi-casualty incident, triage and treatment of victims. In these situations, the Company Officer goes with the company to provide the appropriate level of supervision while again utilizing the portable radio to command the incident.

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- Offensive fire attacks (especially in transitional {offensive to defensive or defensive to offensive} situations)
- Critical rescues which must be achieved in a compressed time frame
- Any incident where the safety and welfare of the firefighters is a major concern
- Obvious working incidents that require further investigation by the Company Officer

Where fast intervention is critical, using the portable radio will permit the Company Officer to be involved in the attack without neglecting command responsibilities. Offensive operations should not last more than a few minutes and will end with one of the following:

- The situation is stabilized
- The situation is not stabilized and the Company Officer may need to withdraw to the exterior and establish a command post. At some point the Company Officer must decide whether or not to withdraw the remainder of the company, based on their capabilities, experience, safety issues, and availability of portable radios. No company shall remain in a hazardous area without a portable radio.
- Command is passed to another Company Officer (see passing command) or transferred to a higher ranking officer. When a chief officer assumes command, the Company Officer may be returned to their company or assigned to the IC.

DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS (Stationary Command)

Certain incidents, by virtue of their size, complexity, or potential for rapid expansion, require immediate, strong, direct, overall command. In such cases the Company Officer will initially assume an exterior, safe and effective command position until command is transferred to a higher ranking Officer. If the Company Officer selects stationary command, the remaining company personnel can be assigned by utilizing the following options:

- The Company Officer takes command and places the company into action with the remaining personnel, using a firefighter to serve as the acting Company Officer. This will depend on manpower, experience, and portable radio availability.

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- The Company Officer may assign company personnel to work under the supervision of another Company Officer. In this case, the Company Officer/IC shall advise the second arriving Company Officer, indicating the addition of personnel to the 2nd company.
- The Company Officer may elect to assign company personnel to perform staff functions to assist the IC.

The Company Officer assuming command has a choice of command operations, but continues to be fully responsible for the command functions. The initiative and judgment of the Company Officer is of critical importance. The operations identified are guidelines to assist the Company Officer in planning appropriate actions.