

LOS PINOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE



TITLE	NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE
ESTABLISHING, TRANSFERING, AND TERMINATING COMMAND	305	July 2 nd , 2003	

BACKGROUND

All of the Incident Command System's (ICS) components must work together interactively to provide the basis for an effective operation. The consistent use of common terminology is one of the most important components.

The Incident Commander (IC) must be able to communicate effectively with all the responding resources. The use of terms that are understood by all of the responders is critical to their ability to manage the incident.

The best training in ICS is the day-to-day use of the system at all incidents. In daily use, the words ESTABLISHING, ASSUMING, PASSING, and TERMINATING command should be employed.

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMAND

The first due unit at an incident will establish command. A common example of radio terminology for this practice would be:

*Ignacio, Engine One - On scene at 585 Goddard Avenue, fire showing from a two story commercial building, assign all units to FERN upon arrival, Engine One is **ESTABLISHING** Goddard Command.*

-or-

*Ignacio, Rescue One - On scene at Highway 172 and County Road 318, we have a three vehicle Motor Vehicle Accident, extrication is needed, assign all units to FERN upon arrival, Rescue One is **ESTABLISHING** Highway 172 Command.*

Information contained in Los Pinos Fire Protection District's SOP 306, "ON SCENE & PROGRESS REPORTS," should also be incorporated into this radio transmission.

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TRANSFER OF COMMAND

Command may be transferred from the initial IC to later arriving or senior command officers or vice versa. An example of radio terminology to effect this application would be:

*Ignacio, 801 - On scene at Highway 172 and County Road 318, **ASSUMING** Highway 172 Command.*

-or-

*Ignacio, Goddard Command - Fire at 275 Goddard Avenue is under control, Rescue One will be returning to quarters, **PASSING** Goddard Command to Engine One.*

TERMINATION OF COMMAND

The command of any incident should be verbally terminated at the end of operations. An example of the radio terminology to accomplish this task would be:

*Ignacio, Goddard Command - Engine One, Ladder One, and Rescue Two are returning to quarters, **TERMINATING** Goddard Command.*

-or-

*Ignacio, Highway 172 Command – Rescue One is out of service assisting the ambulance with patient transport, 801 is available in district, **TERMINATING** Highway 172 Command.*

The consistent use of this suggested radio terminology should assist in making ICS use routine, and allowing for a smooth progression when dealing with larger incidents.

Larry Behrens

Larry Behrens, Fire Chief

July 2nd, 2003

Date