



# MABAS 3201

## Oakland County Fire Mutual Aid Association

### STANDARD OPERATING POLICY

SECTION: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

MAYDAY COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

DATE ISSUED: June 21, 2017

REVISION DATE:

#### MAYDAY Procedure

##### Scope

It is critical to acknowledge the role that the dispatch center, and most specifically the tactical radio operator, will have in the resolution of a MAYDAY. A significant component of the overall hazard zone management system and firefighter safety is the contact between the Command and the dispatch center, no matter the incident size.

##### Definitions

**Command:** See "IC"

**IC: Incident Commander:** Title used for the person/persons with responsibility of the incident. Used interchangeably with "Command"

**LUNAR:** An acronym used to identify the **L**ocation, **U**nit, **N**ame, **A**ssignment, **R**esources needed for the firefighter / crew calling a Mayday

**MAYDAY:** Used by a firefighter (or crew) to indicate they are in a situation that poses an immediate threat to their life. (Examples: Lost, Trapped in a structure, Struck by a vehicle on a scene, Weapons, etc)

**PAR: Personnel Accountability Report:** A report requested by Command (sometimes through the Staging Area Manager) that confirms crew integrity

**RIT or RIC: Rapid Intervention Team / Crew:** A resource identified by Command for the sole purpose of firefighter rescue at an incident

##### Dispatch Responsibilities

1. A MAYDAY may occur at any time, during any incident. It may be initiated by an Emergency Button Activation, or by a person calling out "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY" **without** Emergency Button Activation.
2. In the event a MAYDAY is declared by a firefighter calling out "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY", the dispatcher shall implement the attached "MAYDAY PROCEDURE" as outlined in the following steps"



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#### Step 1:

When a MAYDAY is declared and **acknowledged** by Command, go to **Step 2** and follow without direction from the IC.

If a MAYDAY is **not** acknowledged by Command within **10** seconds, the dispatcher shall acknowledge the MAYDAY, **verify** that Command now has acknowledged the MAYDAY and then document the MAYDAY information given to IC. Then, proceed to **Step 2**.

#### Step 2:

The dispatcher will complete the following without any direction from the IC or any other personnel:

- A. The dispatcher will activate the Alert 2 (A2) for 3 seconds on any active radio channel related to the incident the MAYDAY has been declared on, the dispatcher will then announce:
  - “A MAYDAY has been declared at (address).”
- B. Primary dispatcher will handle the MAYDAY channel; a secondary dispatcher will be assigned any additional fire ground channels.
- C. Dispatch will activate the next level of alarm (from BOX to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> etc.) along with two additional ALS transport units.
- D. Notify the local law enforcement, FD CHIEF (if not on scene) and communications command staff.

#### Step 3:

Upon completion of **Step 2** the dispatcher shall note in the D-card “**The MAYDAY Procedure has been implemented.**”

#### Step 4:

Continue to monitor assigned channels for any additional missed radio traffic or requests that may be made.



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#### **Step 5:**

The dispatcher will cease following the MAYDAY Procedure only upon receiving a message from the IC reporting that "The MAYDAY has been terminated"