

# Spartanburg Public Safety Department Fire Division

Standard Operating Procedure	No. 101.02
<b>Portable Radios</b>	Page 1 of 2
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## **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this procedure is to outline the features and proper use of portable radios.

The best means of communication at an emergency scene is face-to-face. Face-to-face communication should be utilized whenever possible within the company or division.

Portable radios will be used whenever distance or circumstances prevent face-to-face communication. Radio transmissions should be prioritized and concise.

## **II. RADIO FAMILIARIZATION**

It is critical to be familiar with the operation and position of all portable radio capabilities and controls. This familiarity will allow personnel to operate their radio in zero visibility and under extreme circumstances.

## **III. RADIO OPERATION**

All personnel will have a portable radio assigned for their use. Each member will be responsible for the proper use and maintenance of their radio. All radios should be checked for proper operation at the beginning of each shift or whenever necessary. Radios not functioning properly should be tagged and reported to the Apparatus Mechanic using a work order form.

Each member is responsible to carry his/her assigned radio on all emergency incidents. At other times, the radio will be carried at his/her discretion or secured in the fire vehicle.

Portable radio identification is as follows:

- Engine 1 or Ladder 1 will apply to the operator of the fire engine.
- The remaining personnel will go by their apparatus assignment and position or apparatus assignment and name.

Example: Engine 1 Firefighter Jones to command  
Squad 1 Officer to Squad 1 Driver

- Single person vehicles will use their assigned vehicle ID.

Example: C-9