



# Central Zone Operations

Alpine - Barona - Bonita - El Cajon - Lakeside - La Mesa  
Lemon Grove - San Miguel - Santee - Sycuan - Viejas  
Heartland Communications

## D-03.1 COMMAND AND TACTICAL RADIO CHANNEL ASSIGNMENTS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide an effective and consistent procedure for radio channel use when responding and operating at an emergency incident within Central, East, and Metro Operational Zones.

### POLICY

When responding or staged at an incident, Units shall remain on the command channel assigned by dispatch.

Once an operational assignment has been assigned, units shall switch to and operate on designated tactical channels. Branches, divisions, or groups shall communicate with the IC on the designated tactical channel unless directed otherwise by the IC.

On large or complex incidents, the IC may create an expanded command/tactical communications structure. The IC will then communicate with branches, divisions, or groups on the command channel, and task-level units will remain on the assigned tactical channel. The IC shall communicate the expanded command/tactical communications structure with all incident personnel.

The IC shall monitor both command and tactical channels until termination of the incident.

All support functions, including Staging and Logistics, shall remain on the incident command channel unless directed to a tactical channel by command.