

Elkins Park Fire Company

Title:	Radio Communications & Designations
Number:	SOP OP-201
Effective Date:	07 June 2022

1. PURPOSE:

To provide and establish the policy and guidelines for a common language to be used for all forms of communication.

2. OBJECTIVE:

To ensure that all Fire Company personnel understand and properly use the expected form(s) of communication including the use of “plain speak” as per the MCDPS.

3. SAFETY:

N/A

4. DEFINITIONS/ACRONYMS:

Officer-in-Charge (OIC) - The Officer in charge of the entire fire company and its personnel.

MCDPS- Montgomery County Department of Public Safety

5. PROCEDURE:

Expectations:

Each officer of a crew shall have a portable or be able to maintain communication with their OIC. As many crew members should have portable radios as practical.

Frivolous and unnecessary communications will not be tolerated. All members will follow the EPFC SOG on communications.

Plain Speak:

Examples of correct plain speak:

- “County, Engine 3 responding with 4”
- “County, Quint 3, Lieutenant 3 responding with 4 to Rodgers Road”

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- “Montgomery, Utility 3 responding with 2”
- “Chief 3 from Quint 3, can you repeat your message”

Examples of incorrect plain speak:

- “Engine 3 to County, we’ll be responding to the dwelling”
- “Quint 3 to Chief 3, what was that?”

The following designations are utilized by the Elkins Park Fire Company:

Officers:

Chief 3

Deputy 3

Assistant 3

Safety 3

Captain 3

Lieutenant 3

Lieutenant 3-1

Lieutenant 3-2

Engineer 3

Engineer 3-1*

Engineer 3-2

*denotes a retired identification number

Apparatus:

Engine 3

Quint 3

Utility 3

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