

BURLINGTON TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE #2

INCIDENT COMMAND

Purpose: To provide a standardized approach to the command, control, and coordination of emergency response to incidents of any size or complexity.

Scope: To provide a guideline for all members of Burlington Twp. Fire Department using the National Incident Management System.

Assumption of Command:

1. Command shall be established at all incidents.
2. The first arriving unit shall assume command.
3. Once command is established the following needs to be reported to Central Dispatch:
 - a. Who is assuming command
 - b. What is the confirmed location of the incident
 - c. Brief description of the scene
 - d. Location of Command

Transfer of Command:

1. Command will not be transferred just because a senior officer arrives on location.
2. Command does not have to be transferred.
3. When command is transferred the following communication must take place between the outgoing and incoming I.C.:
 - a. Current status of incident
 - b. What actions have been done and their results
 - c. What resources are committed to the incident
4. Notify Central Dispatch of Command change

Responsibilities of Incident Commander:

1. First priority is life safety
2. Second priority is incident stabilization
3. Third priority is property conservation
4. Other duties include but are not limited to:
 - a. performing a scene size-up and 360-degree check
 - b. implementing an Incident Action Plan
 - c. documentation of the incident
 - d. accountability and safety of everyone on location

Staging:

1. Staging is to take place at a location determined by the I.C. or their designee.
2. Have all responding mutual aid resources report to staging.

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Communication:

1. Only the I.C. is to have radio traffic with Central Dispatch
2. Use the incident channel which is assigned by Central Dispatch

Accountability:

1. Burlington Twp. Fire Department will use the Passport Accountability System.
2. It is the Staging Officers responsibility to ensure all Passport tags for Firefighters and apparatus are utilized