



ROWAN COUNTY EMS

Written : 1 Jan 1999
Updated : 1 Jan 1999

STANDARD PROCEDURE

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- The 800 Mhz trunking radio system is the primary system for delivering EMS radio traffic. All 800 Mhz radios shall remain set to the EMS DISP talkgroup. When in scan mode the radio will home to this talkgroup.
- The following are the general uses for the EMS talkgroups.
 - EMS DISP Dispatch of EMS units
 - EMS TAC 1 Restricted Use
 - EMS TAC 2 Primary on Scene EMS Operations/Communications between units
 - EMS TAC 3 Secondary on Scene EMS Operations
 - EMS TRNG Training Activities
 - EMS ADM EMS Administration
 - RMH A Ambulance - Hospital Patch
- EMS units are dispatched for calls on the 800 Mhz radio. Crews are also paged on VHF tone voice pagers.
- **Do not routinely leave the EMS radio in the scan mode.** If a radio is receiving a transmission on a talkgroup other than EMS Dispatch, no page will be received.
- All 800 Mhz radios have an emergency activation button. Activate the alarm for life threatening situations. Audible and visual signals are set off in ROWAN Communications. Follow up is immediate.
- The supervisor sends ROWAN Communications a daily list of who is assigned to the units and radios.
- The Private Call function on the radio should be used with discretion. Private Call is **not** a secure channel. It is easily picked up by scanners.
- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMON or SALS P-S COM is an exclusive talkgroup for public safety agencies. At major incidents SALS P-S- COM can serve as a common event channel.
- GOVERNMENT COMMON or SALS GOV COM is an exclusive talkgroup for non-public safety agencies to communicate with each other.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

- CONVENTIONAL NORTH or CONV NORTH is the emergency back up channel to be used in cases of total trunking system failure. It's use will be authorized by the System Manager or Public Safety Chief Officer.
- Four VHF frequencies are available. These are:
 - 155.715 - Repeater
 - 155.715 - Simplex
 - 155.280 - State Rescue Mutual Aid
 - 155.340 - State Hospital
- Advise ROWAN Communications of any vehicle movements that affect your response time. Report these on the radio so all units can be tracked.
- All dispatches are emergency unless otherwise stated. Units should respond when checking enroute. Acknowledge ROWAN Communications by repeating the address and response mode.
- Provide advance notice to receiving hospitals by calling prior to arrival with a brief summary of the patient's condition.
- EMS crews do not have the authority to cancel fire departments or law enforcement.
- EMS may cancel rescue squads or medical responders when their services are not needed.
- EMS ambulances are dispatched in sequence from the closest EMS station. The stations and ambulances are:

Station 83 (East Rowan)	Unit 836	Station 86 (South Rowan)	Unit 862
Station 84 (West Rowan)	Unit 844	Station 87 (EOC)	Unit 873
Station 85 (Salisbury) –	Unit 851	station 87 Prime Time	Unit 875
Station 86 (South Rowan) –	Unit 862		

- If an auxiliary number is used to begin the shift, keep that number throughout the remainder of the shift. For example, 873 is running a call at shift change. The on coming crew goes in service as 877. They will keep 877 as their unit number for the rest of the shift.
- The established auxiliary numbers for each station are:

Station 83	Unit 837
Station 84	Unit 847
Station 85	Unit 857
Station 86	Unit 867
Station 87	Unit 877

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

- ROWAN Communications will assign a tactical (fire ground) channel on those incidents where EMS and Fire Service are jointly responding.
- Fire service medical responders arriving at the incident first will update EMS on the EMS Dispatch channel.
- If incoming EMS units have questions for personnel on the scene, they should select the assigned tactical channel and call the medical responders.