

Augusta County Emergency Services Officers Association

*Augusta County Government Center
P.O. Box 590 – 18 Government Center Lane
Verona, Virginia 24482*



Fire-EMS Standard Operating Guideline

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Section: | Operations |
| Title: | Regional Priority Traffic Policy |
| Date: | January 27, 2015 |

Purpose:

Provide Fire-Rescue personnel with an outline for initiating Priority Traffic.

Policy:

"Priority Traffic" is a request to clear all radio traffic from the appropriate frequency to pass on emergency information.

It shall be used whenever it is necessary to immediately evacuate fire personnel who are working in a hazardous environment or atmosphere, from the hazardous area, due to imminent danger such as structure collapse, back draft potential, BLEVE potential, etc. Priority Traffic can also be used when there are immediate needs such as additional alarms, additional resources, or to clear the channel to report important information to the IC or ECC.

Procedure:

- The Priority Traffic call may be requested by any person working at the scene of an emergency, who recognizes imminent danger. If requested by personnel other than Command, Command must be notified as to the imminent hazard situation as soon as possible
- When Priority Traffic is called, the ECC shall broadcast the Priority Traffic tone for five seconds, and announce "Priority Traffic, all personnel stand-by". When this announcement is made, the person requesting Priority Traffic shall proceed with their message.
- This message shall be immediately repeated by the ECC on all frequencies being used at the scene.