**WASHTENAW AREA MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION**

**SUBJECT: MAYDAY POLICY**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: November 07, 2017**

**ADOPTED DATE: November 07, 2017**

I **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to provide a unified fire ground countywide procedure for a “Mayday” situation in Washtenaw County.

II. **DEFINITION:** “MAYDAY” is a term utilized to report a firefighter(s) who is lost, trapped, or in imminent danger within the fire ground.

**Mayday is not an emergency evacuation call.**

III**. RESPONSIBILITY:** It is imperative that all agencies and emergency scene personnel understand this procedure as it shall be the sole method for emergency personnel who find themselves or others in a life-threatening situation to communicate such an emergency at any incident on the fire ground.

IV. **MAYDAY DESCRIPTION:**

The following situation with an emergency responder will initiate a Mayday call,   
 but not limited to:

Trapped Entanglement

Cut off by fire Cut off by collapse

Through the floor Pinned

SCBA failure Firefighter down

Lost/disoriented Pass device activation

V. **MAYDAY PROCEDURE:**

The Mayday procedure shall be used by all emergency response agencies within Washtenaw County as follows:

* 1. The signal for missing/lost/trapped emergency personnel is the radio or verbal transmission of “**Mayday, Mayday, Mayday**.”
  2. The “**Mayday**” transmission shall continue until acknowledged by the Incident Commander (IC).
  3. The Communications Dispatcher and IC, upon hearing a “**Mayday**” call, shall advise “Emergency Radio Traffic Only” and **all other radio traffic**
  4. **to stay clear (until released by IC) of the talk group on which the “Mayday” was declared**. It is expected that IC will take the initial primary operations for the duration of the mayday. All other units operating at the incident scene will maintain radio discipline until the emergency traffic has been cleared by the IC. The next talk group in sequential number will then be assigned to the incident until completed. This will be used for staging, water supply, and other operational needs.
  5. Any emergency scene personnel that are aware of a missing individual or crew should also declare a “**Mayday**.”
  6. Individuals who declare a “**Mayday**” shall provide as much information as possible utilizing the acronym LUNAR (Location, Unit, Name, Air, Resources) or CAN (Conditions, Actions, Needs) per their Departments protocols.
  7. Personnel who become trapped or disoriented should execute all necessary self-rescue activities to assist in their own rescue (including activation of their PASS Device after radio transmission, tapping noises, flashlights etc.).
  8. Upon receipt of the “**Mayday**,” the IC shall immediately consult with the RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) leader.
  9. All fire suppression activities shall continue unless ordered to cease by the IC.
  10. The IC shall call for a Personnel Accountability Report (PAR).

* 1. All emergency responders shall have previously provided personnel accountability tags to the IC or Accountability Officer to assist in accounting for all personal on the fire ground.
  2. All “Mayday” activity shall include the dispatch of the next BOX alarm. If the incident is not in a BOX alarm, the dispatcher will issue the 2nd BOX alarm and an additional Advance Life Support (ALS) unit.
  3. Other emergency personnel and/or other assets shall NOT self-dispatch to the scene.