

**SAN JUAN ISLAND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1**

**Standing Order**

**Emergency Communications in Power Outage**

**No. SO-01-06**

**Date Issued:** December 6, 2006

**Date Revised:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this standing order is to provide guidelines for EMS personnel to effectively communicate when there is a power outage and/or inability for dispatch to page and/or communicate due to equipment failure.

**STANDING ORDER**

1. Upon notification that a power outage or equipment failure might exist, all EMS personnel should set their pagers and radios to open squelch and monitor any radio traffic for call activity.
2. Upon failure of dispatch to communicate, a communication officer will be appointed by the on-call paramedic or chief to act as "dispatcher" until communications are restored. This person should be an EMT and report to the EMS Station on Spring Street to fulfill this function.
3. This person will notify San Juan dispatch that they are acting as communication officer and give dispatch the telephone number where they will be able to be reached in the event of a call.
4. The Communication officer will dispatch the call utilizing a vehicle's mobile radio, record times and responders as needed and communicate with San Juan Dispatch as needed through a land-line phone.
5. The Communication Officer will keep County Dispatch apprised of activities and turn over active dispatching as soon as County Dispatch is able to again function.