



STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE
SAN JUAN ISLAND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO.1

INCIDENT COMMAND PRIORITIES

SOG #
124-08

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ISSUED
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PURPOSE

To provide priorities and guidance for personnel of San Juan Island EMS who are taking "Incident Command" at an operational level.

GUIDELINE

These general guidelines should help the Incident Commander think through the priorities and tasks needed for commanding an EMS scene, based on NIMS standards. They are guidelines and must be flexibly applied to be of most benefit to the specific scene.

The Incident Commander (IC) is responsible for the following tasks:

1. Establishing command and identifying their name and the name of the incident.
 - a. Example: EMT Jones is establishing Spring Street Command
 - b. IC will then be known as "Spring Street Command"
2. Assess situation for immediate life safety issues (i.e. correct parking of emergency vehicles, scene lighting, rescuer safety attire, flares/cones, ice on stairs, etc.)
3. If not already done, broadcast the basic scene size up with the following elements:
 - a. Code of call, RED, YELLOW or GREEN
 - b. Number of victims
 - c. Mechanism of injury if known
 - d. Known hazards (i.e. smoke coming from engine, patient entrapment)
 - e. Need for additional personnel or resources (i.e. respond second ambulance)
4. Respond to Lead EMT/Paramedic with requests and support at the scene.
5. Be in appropriate proximity to patient operations.
6. Once sufficient personnel and apparatus are determined, broadcast "sufficient personnel."
 - a. If EMTs are still enroute, they should continue code yellow to the scene and stage at ambulance.
 - b. They should sign on pink sheet in driver compartment (accountability) and await further orders from I/C for engagement or release from the scene.
 - c. If responding to station and you miss the ambulance, consider traveling in POV to the scene, or manning station for second call or additional apparatus needs and put name on pink sheet.
7. Carry out operational objectives with patient and rescuer safety as priorities.
8. Maintaining a manageable span of control, delegating as needed.
9. Managing incident resources.
10. Coordinating overall emergency activities, including those of outside agencies as within the scope of the incident.
11. Track and manage personnel and equipment throughout entire scene.
12. Terminate command and broadcast when scenario is completed.