



**Jefferson County Fire and EMS**  
**Mayday**  
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**JC OG: 012**

**Date: 10/01/10**

**Revised: 9/01/24**

**Purpose:**

To establish guidelines and procedures for personnel to utilize when they require emergency assistance. These procedures shall be used whenever personnel identify themselves disoriented, lost, injured, out of or low on air, trapped, or whenever they have an emergency and need assistance.

**Procedure:**

When an emergency responder identifies that he/she, or a member of his/her team, is facing a life-threatening situation and requires emergency assistance, he/she shall (if possible) transmit a verbal message on the assigned operations radio channel to the Incident Commander and state:

“MAYDAY-MAYDAY-MAYDAY” and provide Who, Where, What (the 3 W’S). Who needs assistance, where is the emergency, and What is wrong.

*EXAMPLE: MAYDAY-MAYDAY-MAYDAY, Firefighter XYZ, Division 2, and I’m out of air!*

The Incident Commander (IC) may request a LUNAR therefore all personnel should be able to provide the following L.U.N.A.R.

L: Location (where are you)

U: Unit (apparatus assigned to)

N: Name (last name)

A: Assignment (what were you doing)

R: Reason for calling (why are you in trouble) & Resources needed (air, rope, etc.)

After communicating with the Incident Commander (IC), personnel shall manually activate the SCBA PASS device.

Personnel who initiated the MAYDAY should provide updates on their status to the Incident Commander (IC). This is particularly important if the person(s) in distress is on the move and attempting self-rescue.

**Note:**

If in two attempts personnel receive no acknowledgement of the MAYDAY, he/she should attempt to turn the radio channel selector all the way in one direction, activate the emergency assistance (EA) button on the radio and transmit the MAYDAY over the dispatch channel.

**Incident Command Procedures:**

Once a MAYDAY is called, the following shall occur:

- Command acknowledges the MAYDAY and may request L.U.N.A.R.
- If communications cannot be established the Incident Commander (IC) will consult the accountability system/officer to determine the last known location of the person(s) who declared MAYDAY.
- Immediately deploy the necessary resources needed to effect rescue of personnel in the MAYDAY condition. This shall include activating the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) in order to locate, assist, and remove the person(s) in distress.
- Elects to silence all other non-pertinent radio traffic or switches all other radio traffic to an alternate channel EXCEPT for the MAYDAY firefighter, Rapid Interventions Team (RIT), and the Incident Commander (IC).

- Conduct a PAR check on units working the incident.
- Notify the Communications Center a MAYDAY has been called.
- Request an additional officer to the Command Post in order to assist with the MAYDAY operation.
- Assign a second Rapid Interventions Team (RIT).
- Request progress reports from the RIT Supervisor every five (5) minutes.

During MAYDAY Operations, Sector Officers and firefighters will continue with assignments as given by Command. They will not redirect their activities without the knowledge and consent of the Incident Commander (IC).

**Cancelling A Mayday:**

Personnel calling the MAYDAY can cancel an active MAYDAY through the Incident Commander (IC) if they are able to resolve the perceived problem and further assistance is not needed.

**ECC Procedures:**

The ECC will immediately notify all units operating on the scene of the emergency by transmitting the alert tone on all tactical channels being used at the incident and stating known information about the situation.

The ECC shall alert for (2) ALS transport units, (3) Engine Companies, and (2) specialty units (truck or rescue squad).

The dispatcher will monitor all channels closely for any transmission from the missing, trapped or endangered personnel.

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Chairman of the Fire and Rescue Association

Approved Date:  
Implementation Date: