

MONTERERY COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
FIRE OPERATIONS MANUAL
SECTION 8

**Programming the “Firefighter Emergency” Button on Portable
Radios Policy**

1. Policy

- A. The purpose of this policy is to establish a standard for all Monterey County fire agencies to follow when programming any portable radio with a “firefighter emergency” feature.

2. Background

- A. The ability for a firefighter to rapidly notify other personnel on the emergency scene that he or she is in need of assistance is crucial. Depending on the severity of the situation, the only chance the firefighter may have is the ability to push a button. It is with this issue in mind that radio manufacturers have incorporated one-touch “firefighter emergency” buttons on portable radios. These buttons have been in use throughout the firefighting industry for many years and have proven very successful. Their success hinges on consistent application of policies regarding programming, use, and response to a firefighter emergency activation. This document was created to ensure that consistency throughout Monterey County.

3. Policy

- A. The predominant portable radio in use in Monterey County by fire agencies is the Kenwood TK-5210. The following section outlines the programming for this particular radio. General programming standards for radio brands other than Kenwood follow the Kenwood programming language in this document.

B. Settings for the Kenwood TK-5210 Portable Radio

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| I. | Emergency Channel Type: | Revert |
| II. | Emergency Zone Channel: | |
| III. | Emergency Locator Tone 1: | 2 |
| IV. | Transmit Duration: | 15 |
| V. | Duration of Locator Tone 2: | 4 |
| VI. | Receive Duration: | 30 |
| VII. | Emergency Mic Sense: | High |
| VIII. | Emergency Text: | FF EMERGENCY!! |
| IX. | Emergency LED: | Enable |
| X. | Emergency ID: | Fleet Sync |

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XI.	Emergency DTMF ID:	n/a
XII.	Emergency Call Fleet:	ALL
XIII.	Emergency Call ID:	ALL
XIV.	Emergency Mode Type:	Audible
XV.	Emergency Key Delay Time:	3.0
XVI.	Emergency Cycle:	1 Cycle
XVII.	Suspended Power Off:	Disable
XVIII.	Man-Down:	Disable

4. Alternate Brand Portable Radio Programming Features

- A. Emergency Call Button – The button should be programmed to activate after being depressed for four (4) seconds.
- B. Once activated, the following sequence of programming should activate. This sequence should repeat infinitely until the emergency sequence is deactivated.
 - I. Emergency Channel – This feature should be set for the alert to activate on the channel the radio is tuned to.
 - II. Duration of Locator Tone 1 – The tone that activates when the button is depressed should sound for 5 seconds.
 - III. Transmit Duration – The radio should open the transmit carrier for 15 seconds following the locator tone.
 - IV. Duration of Locator Tone 2 – Once the transmit feature identified above is complete; the radio should generate a 2nd locator tone that sounds for 5 seconds.
 - V. Receive Duration – After the completion of the 2nd locator tone, the radio should return to normal operating function.
 - VI. Microphone Sense – If the portable radio has this feature, it should be set to the highest sensitivity.
 - VII. Emergency Text – The radio should be programmed to display the text “FF EMERGENCY”.
 - VIII. Emergency ID – The radio should be programmed to transmit either the firefighters name or the assigned riding position to which the portable radio is assigned on the apparatus