VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER

Volume 2018-2
June 1, 2018

THE VOICE OF VERDUGO

Did You Know?

- Verdugo was established August 1, 1979, by Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena and is jointly owned by each city. The rest of our cities joined as follows:
- 1996 - South Pasadena
- 1996 - San Marino
- 1999 - Monrovia
- 1999 - Arcadia
- 1999 - Sierra Madre
- 2000 - San Gabriel
- 2005 - Monterey Park
- 2006 - Alhambra
- 2009 - Montebello
- 2011 - Burbank Airport
- 2016 - Vernon

A Tip from Verdugo

Approximately 85% of our 9-1-1 calls are via CELL phone. Usually when receiving a cell phone emergency call, Verdugo will also receive the caller's LATITUDE and LONGITUDE, with an accuracy rate of 90% within 50 meters. There are three scenarios in which Verdugo may provide you the LAT/LON in an effort to help find a patient: Mountain Rescue (MTNRES) incidents; incomplete 9-1-1 transfers with no address received; and GPS medical alarms. Inputting the LAT/LON in the address search line of Google Maps (+34.XXXXXX -118.XXXXXX) will give you an instant point on the map where the caller is located. We will do this for you to attempt to best pinpoint the callers location.

CESRS

The **C**alifornia **E**mergency **S**ervices **R**adio **S**ystem (CESRS) is the only VHF statewide channel authorized for use as a Travel Channel within the State of California. CESRS must be used in Direct Mode (no tones) for line-of-sight travel communications. Agencies needing to contact a State ECC are authorized to use the frequency in Repeat Mode (tone selected). It is important to utilize this channel because often our local channels are used in other parts of the State for various purposes. You are more likely to complete a successful radio transmission from your mobile radio in direct mode at 25 watts versus from a handheld portable device operating at 5 watts. ***TO BE HEARD AMONGST THE UNITS YOU ARE TRAVELING WITH YOU MUST USE IT IN DIRECT MODE.*** Below are the frequencies assigned to CESRS:

Channel	Receive Frequency	Receive Tone	Transmit Frequency	Transmit Tone	Bandwidth	Power	Mode
CESRS	153.7550	CSQ	154.9800	MPL	Narrow	High	Analog
CESRS DIR	153.7550	CSQ	153.7550	None	Narrow	High	Analog

Type Code Humor

Hey Captains! Once you have made the determination that the dispatched CAD Type Code needs to be changed, we ask you to remember one thing: the new TYPE code has to exist! We don't have a "false call" or "good intent" type code, although we do get a good laugh from these requests. Thanks!

Change to VEG and BRUSH Dispatch

Effective 4/26/18, Verdugo will utilize RED-8 as the assigned frequency for all vegetation (VEG) and BRUSH responses regardless of location. The FCSS may alter this direction based on incident activity on RED-8, but it will generally be the standard practice. Initiating the incident on RED-8 will create consistency and reduce the likelihood of having to change frequencies should a single engine VEG response escalate into a BRUSH incident.

A full Comm plan will be assigned to all BRUSH incidents in known BRUSH areas. Verdugo will no longer wait for a Comm plan to be requested. Note: The "Foothill Comm Plan" differs from the "Foothill Mutual Threat Zone" (MTZ). The frequencies associated with the "Foothill Comm Plan" can be utilized ANYWHERE within Los Angeles County for ANY incident regardless of type. This Comm plan is a shared plan that requires our coordination with other agencies prior to assignment.

CAD Update

Progress continues on the build and update of the Northrup Grumman CAD Project. We received and installed the back room computers the week of May 21. NG continues to build our systems and prepare for the training of our staff members. The DATA system and mobility piece of the project is also moving along well, and we hope to have a local vendor in place shortly to help us program and plan for MDC and DATA system implementation. We will share the requirements and steps needed to be taken by all agencies as soon as the plan is approved.

Welcome New FCO Trainees

The first group of Fire Communications Operator Trainees from our recent recruitment started on the 16th of May. Please join us in welcoming (from L to R) Anastasia Alexander, Korin Peltier, Jacqueline Cendejas and Jeffrey Creiman.