

Fresno Operational Area Emergency Alert Tone (Dispatch)

Standard Operating Guideline

1.0 **Purpose:** To establish a guideline for use of the Emergency Alert Tone

1.01 **Scope:** All fire department personnel / public safety dispatchers

1.02 **Use of the Emergency Alert Tone**

The Emergency Alert Tone is a separate and distinct tone designed to alert on-scene personnel of a potential hazard or other emergency operation. Examples of situations that may prompt the use of the Emergency Alert Tone are:

- Down power lines
- Structural instability/collapse
- Entrapment/engulfment hazard
- Chemical release
- Firefighter emergency (Mayday)
- Emergency evacuation

The Incident Commander initiates the use of the Emergency Alert Tone by contacting the Communications Center. Command will request activation of the Emergency Alert Tone. Immediately after the Emergency Alert Tone is transmitted, all units on the incident will discontinue radio transmissions until Command provides a description of the problem. **Should Dispatch receive an emergency traffic or MAYDAY notification from personnel on an incident who are unable to reach the Incident Commander, Dispatch shall immediately notify Command of the situation on the command channel.**

Command will conduct a roll call of each unit or assignment for acknowledgement of information. Example:

“Command, Division B-Bravo.”

“Division B-Bravo, Command go ahead.”

“Command, Division B-Bravo, We have an imminent collapse at the Bravo /Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Command copy, imminent collapse at the Bravo /Charlie corner. Break, Communications, Command.”

“Command, Communications go ahead.”

“Communications, Command, activate the Emergency Alert Tone.”

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“Communications copy.”

Emergency Alert Tone (3 Seconds)

Command shall immediately communicate a positive notification of the hazard to all units at the incident (i.e., All units on the “Shaw Incident” be advised power lines are down “location”). All units on scene shall reply to Command’s notification by saying “Engine 42 (unit identifier) copy, power lines down.”

“Shaw Command to all units, we have an imminent collapse at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure. Standby for roll call.”

“Fire Attack.”

Fire Attack, copy, imminent collapse at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Truck 41.”

“Truck 41, copy, imminent collapse at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Engine 43.”

“Engine 43, copy, imminent collapse at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Division B- Bravo.”

“Division B-Bravo, copy imminent collapse at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

1.03 **Electrical Hazards**

Any time the Emergency Alert Tone is activated for an electrical hazard, Dispatch shall communicate a positive notification of the hazard to all units en-route to the incident. This will occur after the activation of the Emergency Alert Tone per Command and after Command has received a positive confirmation of the hazard from all units on scene of the incident.

Incident traffic:

“Command, Division B-Bravo”.

“Division B- Bravo, Command, go ahead.”

“Command, Division B-Bravo, We have a down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

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“Command copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner. Break, Communications, Command.”

“Command, Communications go ahead.”

“Communications, Command, activate the Emergency Alert Tone.”

“Communications copy.”

Emergency Alert Tone (3 Seconds)

“Shaw Command to all units, we have a down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure. Standby for roll call.”

“Fire Attack.”

Fire Attack, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Truck 41.”

“Truck 41, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Engine 43.”

“Engine 43, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Division B-Bravo.”

“Division B-Bravo, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

Communications Traffic

“All units en-route to the Shaw Incident be advised power lines are down on the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure. Standby for roll call.”

“Engine 42.”

“Engine 42, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

“Engine 45.”

“Engine 45, copy, down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

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“Shaw Command, Communications.”

“Communications, Shaw Command go ahead.”

“Shaw Command, Communications, all units en-route to the Shaw Incident have confirmed down power line at the Bravo/Charlie corner of the structure.”

1.04 **Weekly Test**

The Emergency Alert Tone will be tested on both repeated channels by the Communications Center each week immediately following the weekly pager test. The on-duty Battalion Chief will acknowledge hearing the Emergency Alert Tone at the completion of the test.

1.05 **References**

FIRESCOPE ICS 910, 2007
Operational Area Rapid Intervention Standard Operating Guideline
Operational Area Firefighter Emergency Standard Operating Guideline
Operational Area Emergency Alert Tone Standard Operating Guideline