
**Ocean City Fire Department
Standard Operating Guidelines**

General Policies

Subject: Emergency Radio Button Activation
Revised: 04.05.2019
Approved: 04.22.2019
Effective: 04.29.2019
Section: 229.00

229.01 Purpose

Public safety communications personnel will carry out the following policy when there is an activation of the emergency button on the assigned radio of the Fire Department personnel. Activation of the emergency button will result in a 10 second "Hot Mic" for the initiating user.

229.02 Policy

- A. On-Duty Activation: The public safety communications personnel will attempt to contact the unit over the OCFD Emergency Channel. If the unit responds, they will ask if everything is OK. If you give a negative response, or you do not respond to their call, police units will be sent to your last known location. If activation is related to a fire ground operation, the procedure in SOP 419.02.A.4 should be followed.
- B. In cases of dire emergency when the safety of Fire Department personnel and/or the patient(s) is in jeopardy, EMERGENCY police assistance can be obtained via radio communications using the "SIGNAL 13" code. It should be used as follows: "Paramedic 1 to Communications, Signal 13, 45th St. and Coastal Hwy. for fight/assault". The SIGNAL 13 code is only to be used in cases of extreme emergencies, it is not to be used when police are needed to assist with patient care such as with the administration of CPR.
 - 1) If OCFD personnel are in imminent threat to welfare, yet unable to answer Communications with the proper response, the code "Signal 13" will be incorporated into the response. For example, the employee is in a hostage scenario and being directed to answer, a simple statement to Communications such as "Paramedic1 is Signal 13 on scene."
- C. Off-Duty Activation: The public safety communications personnel will attempt to contact the unit over the OCFD Emergency Channel. If the unit responds, they will ask if everything is OK. If you give a negative response, or you do not respond to their call, police units will be sent to your residence or last known location.