



WHITE PAPER

TO: FIRESCOPE Board of Directors
23300 Castle Street
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FROM: FIRESCOPE Operations Team, Task Force & FIRESCOPE
Communications Subcommittee (FCS)

SUBJECT: ICS 1301 (ICS 205 Best Practices Document)

SUMMARY

The Communications Subcommittee's mission is to promote consistent and efficient incident communications through recommendations and guidelines working with our members and participating agencies. The FCS found inconsistencies in ICS 205 Communications Plan development at incidents. These inconsistencies can lead to resource communications breakdown due to inconsistent channel naming and communications plan organization. The inconsistencies appear more prevalent when out-of-state Incident Management Teams (IMT) manage incidents in California.

FINDINGS

The FCS developed an ICS 205 Best Practices Document to provide a guideline for Communications Unit Leaders (COML) and Incident Management Teams.

RECCOMENDATION

The FCS recommends the ICS 205 Best Practices Document is adopted by the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors and becomes part of the MACS 441-1 Radio Communications Guideline. The FCS also recommends the MACS 441-1 is provided to Incident Management Teams when Orders are distributed to responding teams.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

We are confidently moving forward with a strategic implementation that includes three essential actions: First, we will attach ICS 1301 as an appendix to the MACS 441-1, ensuring that our reference materials are thorough and easily accessible. Second, ICS 1301 will be prominently featured on the FIRESCOPE website, allowing for seamless access by all users.



Finally, we will distribute both MACS 441-1 and ICS 1301 to Incident Management Teams responding to incidents in California, equipping them with the critical resources they need for effective operations.

CONCLUSION

The adoption of the ICS 205 Best Practices Document will provide guidelines for developing consistent and efficient ICS 205 Communications Plans.