

# Safety Bulletin

## Portable Radios

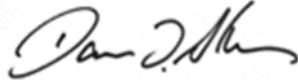
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Approved By: Darren L. Stevens, Fire Rescue Chief



This safety bulletin is to serve as a reminder to all members to utilize the correct portable radio while in an operational role and to ensure that individuals are utilizing the appropriate radios during emergency operations.

Our department has a unique staffing model and our members may respond to multiple calls, on various units, any given day. This creates a challenge to make sure the appropriate radio is used in the correct riding position. Portable radios are assigned to a seat for a respective riding position, so it is important that members are diligent in switching out their radios from their radio straps and placing the appropriate radio for the riding position they are filling for that particular call.

During morning check-offs, it is imperative that the portable radios are accounted for, operational, and located appropriately for each riding position.

We understand that at times it is easier to carry one specific portable throughout the shift and between various units, however this will cause confusion in an emergency activation. For example, if emergency activation is needed and the member is carrying an officer portable from a medic unit, but is responding on an engine, the activation will cause conflicting identification of the activating party.

To reiterate, portable radios **must be** switched out for each call, apparatus, and any change in riding position. **No exceptions.** This ensures appropriate availability of portable radios on each apparatus for the current department expectations as well as accountability and safety when on an emergency call.

Questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Battalion Chief McEvelly.