



Scarborough Fire Department

B. Michael Thurlow, Fire Chief

GENERAL ORDER

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

ORDER #: 16-003

DATE ISSUED: 02/08/2016

SUBJECT: RADIO PROCEDURE FOR TURNPIKE RESPONSES

DATE RECORDED:

PER ORDER OF: *B. Michael Thurlow*, Fire Chief

In an effort to streamline the radio procedure when responding to incidents on the Maine Turnpike and to eliminate the need to monitor or switch between multiple radio frequencies, the Maine Turnpike Authority has granted the Scarborough Fire Department permission to use the Pike Maintenance radio frequency to relay necessary information from the responding duty officer to the responding fire/EMS units when responding to incidents on the turnpike.

Effective immediately the following procedures shall be followed when responding to incidents on the Turnpike:

- Once dispatched to an incident on the turnpike all units shall sign enroute on Scarborough Primary as normal.
- While enroute switch to the Pike Maintenance frequency which will be used to share information and updates from the Maine Turnpike Authority or other units on or responding to the scene during the enroute phase.
- Once arriving on-scene (or if canceled or returned prior to arrival) all units shall communicate with Scarborough dispatch on Scarborough Fire Primary.
- On scene radio traffic shall be conducted on Fire Tactical with use of the repeater as per normal radio policy.
- If dispatch needs to relay information to units during the enroute phase they may contact them on the Pike Maintenance frequency as necessary.

Fire/EMS responders must be aware that Pike Maintenance is used not only for responding Maine State Police troopers and various fire/EMS departments but also by the MTA's maintenance crews as well. With that in mind, all Scarborough Fire Department radio traffic conducted while enroute to these incidents on Pike Maintenance shall be limited to that which is absolutely necessary to carry out the mission.

At this time, due to limitations in the State's radio system, responses to Interstate 295 will follow normal Scarborough Fire radio procedures. There is no Interstate communication frequency available so any updates or information sharing will have to take place between Scarborough dispatch and SP Gray with information relayed to responding apparatus via Scarborough Fire Primary.