

Chain of Command

CHAPTER 2.2

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All personnel are subject to the Department's Chain-of-Command. The highest ranking classification is in-charge when present. When addressing an officer, it will be by the title of their current job classification.

Any directive or order (written or verbal) given to any member by a superior or senior officer shall be carried out without delay. Should an individual be in the act of executing an order and a subsequent order is given to that individual by a different officer, the individual shall make known to the second officer that he/she is in the process of executing an order. In the event the second officer insists that their order be obeyed, the individual shall execute the second order, the second officer then assumes full responsibility for the change in orders and actions thereof.

An order that creates an unsafe situation or that is in contradiction to Department regulations shall be challenged by the receiving party. If after consideration the situation or contradiction persists, the order shall be referred to the issuing individual's superior for confirmation and direction.

The Chain-of Command identifies levels of authority and responsibility. These levels are subject to the presence of the highest ranking individual present. The Department is organized within a framework similar to the NIMS. The Department is headed by the Department Director.

- In the absence of the Department Director the designated or respective Section Chief is the authority.
- Each Department Section is headed by a Section Chief. In the absence of the Section Chief the designated or respective Branch Director is the authority. Each Section has an identified organizational chain-of-command that is a continuum of the Department's structure.
- Each Section divided into branches. Each branch is headed by a Branch Director. Each Branch has an identified organizational chain-of-command that is a continuum of the Section's structure.
- The ranking officer present is the authority.

The current hierarchy for the Fire Rescue Section is as follows:

Chief Fire Rescue
Deputy Chief
Assistant Chief
District Chief
Captain
Lieutenant
Rescue Lieutenant
Driver/Operator
Firefighter