



General Order 81.4 - Communications

PURPOSE: Outline procedures when radio communications break down.

DATE OF APPROVAL: 4/17/25

DATE OF ISSUE: 4/17/25

EFFECTIVE DATE: 4/17/25

REVIEW DATE:

AMENDS: 81.4.1, 81.4.2

THIS ORDER CANCELS: 81.4 Approved 10/01/00, 3/26/19

ISSUED BY: Jeffrey Easter

REVIEWED BY: Policy Review Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey T. Easter".

INDEX AS:

[81.4.1 Communications Failure, General](#)

[81.4.2 Communications Failure, Procedure](#)

81.4.1 COMMUNICATIONS FAILURE, GENERAL

- A. Maintaining communications between deputies and communications dispatchers is imperative to assure both safety to the employees and to provide service to the community.
- B. Communications failure can result from a specific equipment/power failure up to a catastrophic event, such as a tornado or severe winter storm.
- C. The procedures in this General Order are in place so that in the event primary communications are lost, operations can continue with minimal interruption.
- D. The procedures outlined in Section [81.4.2](#) are general in nature and may be modified as needed, based on the specific causes of the communications failure.

81.4.2 COMMUNICATIONS FAILURE, PROCEDURE

- A. In the event radio communications appear terminated on the primary talk group with the Sedgwick County Emergency Communications Center (S.C.E.C.), but employees can still send/receive radio traffic:

1. A field supervisor, or designee thereof, shall attempt to establish contact with S.C.E.C via a telephone.
 2. All units will remain on their primary talk groups, unless ordered to switch.
 3. The field supervisor, or designee thereof, will maintain contact with S.C.E.C. and act as a relay until S.C.E.C. can establish direct contact with field units.
- B. In the event radio communications appear terminated on the primary talk group with S.C.E.C. and all other units:
1. Deputies should switch to SG-LE as outlined below in the Communications outage table;

Zone 35	Operations Plan
SG-PSAP	Dispatch Supervisor Monitoring – used for periodic broadcasts, updates and to answer any radio questions.
SC10-MED	Hospital Traffic
SG-EOC	
SG-LE	Sheriff and Suburban Law Operations
SG-EMGT	
SG-FIRE	SCFD and WPD Dispatching and Operations
SG-PWKS	
SG-EVNT1	SPIDER Operations
SG-EVNT2	Used if TAC channel is needed for any Fire or LE operations
Zone 34	Operations Plan
WEST RPT	WPD West and Airport Operations
SOUTH RPT	WPD South Operations
EAST RPT	WPD East Operations
NORTH RPT	WPD North Operations
CENTRAL RPT	Detention and Corrections Operations – Not monitored by dispatch.