

## BULLETIN

NO: 16-197  
DATE: October 4, 2016  
TO: All Personnel  
FROM: Colin Stowell, Assistant Fire Chief, Emergency Operations  
SUBJECT: RIC Policy Changes – RIC Operations Channel and RIC Naming

The purpose of this bulletin is to explain two new changes to the RIC policy that will be effective October 1, 2016 and emphasized at the upcoming RIC In-Service Training (IST) sessions. The first change is the assignment of pre-designated RIC operations channels on our 800 mhz system. The new RIC operations channel is the Lima (L) channel in each respective zone. For example, if the incident is in Zone 8 it would be 8L and if the incident is in Zone 9 it would be 9L. As you may recall, the “old” operations RIC channel (N) was lost with the updated changes to the 800 mhz fleet map.

This RIC operations channel (L) should enable RIC unit personnel to communicate with each other pre-deployment, without interfering with the incident TAC communications. More importantly, should a deployment occur, the RIC unit will know which channel to switch to and relieve the Incident Commander of finding an available TAC channel for RIC communications.

The second change to the RIC policy concerns the naming of RIC units. RIC units are to be named simply by “RIC Engine #” or “RIC Truck #”. For example, “RIC Engine 14” or “RIC Truck 14”. Geographical or division identifiers do not need to be included, unless the IC specifically requests such identifiers. Further, if a unit is the backup RIC it still should be named as “RIC Engine or Truck #”. This naming change should shorten radio traffic and lessen confusion for units assigned to RIC. If there is a multi-agency response, the RIC unit identifier should include the agency “RIC Agency Engine #” to avoid confusion. Finally, it is highly recommended that on the first alarm, that the assigned RIC unit be an Engine rather than a Truck.

The changes described above will be reviewed at the upcoming RIC IST 17-02 and are in the pre-assignment Power Point on Target Solutions. These RIC operational changes will be incorporated into the Operations Manual.

If you have any questions, please contact Battalion Chief Ty Shimoguchi at [tshimoguchi@sandiego.gov](mailto:tshimoguchi@sandiego.gov).