

## BULLETIN

NO: 22-132

DATE: August 17, 2022

TO: All Personnel

FROM: Chris Webber, Assistant Fire Chief, Emergency Operations

SUBJECT: "Capsized Vessel" Dispatch Response Pilot

In response to the recent increase in capsized vessels on our coast, a new dispatch response has been developed, "Capsized Vessel". This response plan will be assessed during a pilot over the next 6 months starting Friday August 9, 2022.

The response will include:

### Lifeguards

LT X 1

LG Sgt X 1

Rescue Vessel

LG Land Unit

### Fire

BC X 1

Helicopter X 1

Engine X 1

Truck X 1

ALS Ambulance X 2

Shift Commander Notification

This response is intended for use when there is a capsized vessel and there are victims in the water requiring rescue and/or medical treatment. As an initial response, fire personnel will assist lifeguards with land-based operations including:

- incident command
- treatment and care of patients
- land-based search and rescue
- initial establishment of multi-casualty operations

Any arriving lifeguard, fire officer, or ECDC BC/fire dispatch supervisor may initiate the response as necessary.

### Operational Communications and Considerations

- The 'Capsized Vessel' dispatch will include command and tactical channels for use by all fire and ambulance personnel and the tactical channel (lifeguard tac D1 or D2) to be used by lifeguards for the duration of the incident.
- Fire and ambulance personnel may monitor the lifeguard tac channels for situational awareness but are NOT to use the lifeguard tac channel for communications.
- The lifeguard tac channel is for lifeguard personnel effecting and monitoring rescues and they will remain on this channel for the duration of the incident.

- Lifeguard personnel cannot change channels during an incident given the environmental conditions of a rescue.
- Incident commanders will continue to communicate with rescue group supervisors on the assigned fire command channel.
  - Rescue group supervisors will communicate with lifeguard personnel on the assigned lifeguard tac channel.
- Incident commanders and operations/rescue group supervisors may also direct personnel to line-of-sight channels (CESARS) in some coastal areas.
- Expanded incident communications will occur as necessary.

Please route any questions through your chain of command.