



FIELD OPERATIONS GUIDE

ICS 420-1

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM PUBLICATION

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Ten Standard Fire Orders

FIRE BEHAVIOR

1. Keep informed on fire weather conditions and forecasts.
2. Know what your fire is doing at all times.
3. Base all actions on current and expected behavior of the fire.

FIRELINE SAFETY

4. Identify escape routes and safety zones and make them known.
5. Post lookouts when there is possible danger.
6. Be alert. Keep calm. Think clearly. Act decisively.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL

7. Maintain prompt communication with your forces, your supervisor, and adjoining forces.
8. Give clear instructions and ensure they are understood.
9. Maintain control of your forces at all times.

IF YOU CONSIDERED 1 THROUGH 9, THEN

10. Fight fire aggressively, having provided for safety first.

Common Denominators of Fire Behavior on Tragedy Fires

- Most incidents happen on the smaller fires or on isolated portions of larger fires.
- Most fires are innocent in appearance before the "flare-ups" or "blow-ups." In some cases, tragedies occur in the mop-up stage.
- Flare-ups generally occur in deceptively light fuels.
- Fires run uphill surprisingly fast in chimneys, gullies, and on steep slopes.
- Some suppression tools, such as helicopters or air tankers, can adversely affect fire behavior. The blasts of air from low flying helicopters and air tankers have been known to cause flare-ups.

FIRESCOPE PROGRAM Mission and Intent

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of FIRESCOPE is to provide recommendations and technical assistance to the Office of Emergency Services (OES), to maintain the FIRESCOPE “Decision Process,” and to continue the operation, development, and maintenance of the FIRESCOPE Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS).

VISION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE vision is to continue national leadership in the development of all-risk incident management and multi-agency coordination systems, to enhance and encourage full participation by the California fire service in the statewide Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and to provide a common voice for the California fire service relating to these issues.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The content of the Field Operations Guide (FOG) is intended to provide guidance for the application of the Incident Command System (ICS) to any planned or unplanned event. Position descriptions, checklists, and diagrams are provided to facilitate that guidance. The information contained in this document is intended to enhance the user’s experience, training, and knowledge in the application of the Incident Command System. All users must obtain proper ICS training at the level necessary to effectively utilize the system.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1	Common Responsibilities.....	1-1
Chapter 2	Multi-Agency Coordination System	2-1
Chapter 3	Area Command	3-1
Chapter 4	Complex	4-1
Chapter 5	Command.....	5-1
Chapter 6	Unified Command	6-1
Chapter 7	Operations Section.....	7-1
Chapter 8	Planning Section	8-1
Chapter 9	Logistics Section	9-1
Chapter 10	Finance/Administration Section.....	10-1
Chapter 11	Organizational Guides.....	11-1
Chapter 12	Resource Types and Minimum Standards	12-1
Chapter 13	Hazardous Materials	13-1
Chapter 14	Multi-Casualty	14-1
Chapter 15	Urban Search and Rescue	15-1
Chapter 16	Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue	16-1
Chapter 17	High-Rise Structure Fire Incident	17-1
Chapter 18	Firefighter Incident Safety and Accountability Guidelines	18-1
Chapter 19	Glossary of Terms	19-1
Appendix A	Communications	A-1
Appendix B	California Agency Designators:	
	Alpha by Agency	B-1
	Alpha by Designator.....	B-27
	Operational Area Identifiers.....	B-53

NOTE: Each of the above Chapters has its own Table of Contents. Those Chapters with position checklists may have references in parentheses following the position title. Those references are the Incident Command System (ICS) position manuals that describe the full duties and responsibilities for that position.