



FIRESCOPE COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST GROUP

May 28, 2013

To the California Fire Service:

In order to comply with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) changes to VHF frequencies, over the past several years the FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group and the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSEIC) have been working with the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) to modify the old "White Fire VHF Channels." With the final set of changes completed to coincide with the December 31st, 2012 FCC deadline for narrow-banding VHF channels, the old "White Fire VHF Channels" have all been replaced with the national standard VFIRE nomenclature and channel spacing. Now, instead of only three "White Fire" Mutual Aid frequencies, there are now a total of six VFIRE frequencies available for use by the California Fire Service. Additionally, the states of Nevada and Oregon also have narrow-banded and implemented the new VFIRE nomenclature.

As a reminder, as the current State FCC license holder, CalEMA has processed the appropriate license changes for the use of the tactical VFIRE 22-26 channels. However any agency who held a previous FCC license for a base station operating on the old "White Fire 1" frequency (154.280), must have completed the appropriate FCC paperwork by December 31st, 2012 to continue to use that channel under the new VFIRE 21 nomenclature.

Please find attached the new Operations Bulletin #28 which outlines the new changes to the old "White Fire Channels" for 2013. If you have any questions or comments, regarding Operations Bulletin 28, contact the CalEMA Fire and Rescue Division at 916-845-8711.

Thank You

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