



COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINE NUMBER 16-01

Channel Name and Use of Common Fire VHF Radio Frequencies In New York State

Effective: Immediately
Date issued: March 3rd, 2016

Valid: Until revoked or superseded
Revision: 0 (Initial Release)

SUMMARY:

This document establishes standard channel naming and usage for commonly used channels utilized by Fire Service agencies in New York State.

JUSTIFICATION:

New York is standardizing all interoperable and common channel names to reduce confusion.

DESCRIPTION:

The following simplex frequencies have been renamed:

Table with 5 columns: Frequency, New Name, Pronunciation, Transmit CTCSS, Receive CTCSS. Rows include 46.22 MHz (NYFIRE22), 46.30 MHz (NYFIRE30), and 153.830 MHz (NYFIRE83).

IMPLEMENTATION:

All users should begin use of the new names and should rename visual displays in radio equipment, when possible. Agencies and system managers should inform their users of these name changes so they are familiar with the new names and how it relates to the current appearance in their radios.

LICENSED USE:

This guideline does NOT supersede the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations. An FCC license or appropriate authorization from a licensee is required for mobile and portable use and an FCC license is required for all base station use.

1 It is recognized that existing licenses may use other names or CTCSS tones on these channels. They are encouraged to develop a plan to transition to these common names and tones if possible.

2 46.30 MHz limited to 10-watt transmit power per FCC Rules. Must observe license restrictions.

3 153.830 MHz limited to 100-watt transmit power per FCC Rules. Must observe license restrictions.

PERMITTED USES:

Fire Operations

PROHIBITED USES:

Non-Fire, non-public safety related activities.

CAUTION: Some of these frequencies are not for the exclusive use of interoperable fire communications, as they are licensed by other entities for their own operational purposes. Transient users of the frequencies operating in other areas of the state (during mutual-aid conditions) must avoid causing interference with other licensed users.

TECHNICAL PARAMETERS:

- Only **analog** transmissions are permitted.
- **Narrowband** is required for NYFIRE83.
- The use of a **radio “time out timer” is mandatory**. This setting shall not exceed 120 seconds (2 minutes) each.

UNIT IDENTIFICATION:

- Users shall identify their agency when initiating transmissions on these channels (e.g. “Acme Fire Unit 123 to Fire Command”).
- Users shall use plain language when operating on these frequencies. The use of “10-codes” or other non-standard codes are prohibited. Common fire and medical related terminology, abbreviations and codes are permitted.

MISUSE OF CHANNELS:

- **Concerns** regarding misuse of interoperability and common channels should be reported to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications by Email: DHSES.OIEC@dhSES.ny.gov or Phone: 518-322-4911.
- **Issues affecting the immediate use of these channels or interference** should be reported to the FCC public safety support center at 202-418-1122.