

This training explains how a management organization works to achieve the desired outcome for an incident

While we are working with our dogs on our given assignment, this describes how we know what our assignment is.



The Principles of Command

1. Unity of Command.

- One set of clear objectives for the incident.
- All actions are designed so that the objectives can be accomplished.

2. Chain of Command.

- The organization of the incident is in an orderly, hierarchical structure.
- Each person at the incident has a supervisor, but only one supervisor.

3. Span of Control

- Each supervisor supervises 3 to 7 other people.
- The optimum supervisory ratio is 1:5.

4. Division of Labor

- Work is properly and appropriately delegated.
- Work is divided by geography, by function, or both.

5. Delegation of Authority

- The Incident Commander has the authority to carry out the assignment.
- When work is assigned, the proper authority is delegated.

6. Principle of the Exception

- The person with authority may withhold some decision-making authority under certain circumstances.
- Often related to politically sensitive issues.

7. Principle of Clarity

- Be as clear as possible.
- Ask questions to ensure that others understand.
- If you are not clear, ask, do not assume... clarify!

8. Principle of Anticipation

- Try to anticipate what is likely to happen.
- Try to anticipate what may go wrong.
- Try to anticipate how your actions will affect the situation... and others.

The Basic Rules of ICS



1. Be consistent

- Apply a consistent style of operation throughout the incident.



2. Display a calm demeanor.

- Stay calm, even if it seems like you are acting.
- Your calm demeanor will help others to remain calm, too.



3. Solicit communications.

- Ask questions to make sure that you are understood.
- Solicit feedback to make improvements.
- It is better to over-communicate than to under-communicate.



4. Stay within your capacity...

- ... as an individual.
- ... as an Incident Management Team.



5. Maintain control...

- ... of the situation.
- ... of your resources.

