

# 2-WAY RADIO LANGUAGE & TERMS

Provided by CERT/PAN/PANDA

## "STATUS REPORT" LANGUAGE:

<u>Status/Priority</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Structural</u>	<u>Hazards</u>
EMERGENCY	IMMEDIATE	HEAVY	FIRE-burning or out
URGENT	DELAYED	MEDIUM	GAS LEAK
ROUTINE	MINOR	LIGHT	WATER LEAK
WELFARE	TRAPPED		ELECTRICAL
			CHEMICAL
			ACCESS/NO ACCESS

## People/medical Incidents

**Deceased** -- No respiration.

**Immediate** -- If the victim MEETS ANY of the following criteria:

- **Respiration**-breathing faster than 30 breaths per minute
- **Pulse**-severe bleeding or blanch test (capillary refill) slower than 2 seconds.
- **Mental** status-cannot respond to simple commands.

**Delayed** -- Victim has serious injuries but does not qualify as Immediate.

**Minor** -- Walking wounded.

## Structural Damage

**Light** -- Superficial, cosmetic; broken windows, fallen plaster, primarily content damage (enter and rescue with caution).

**Medium** -- Questionable structural stability; fractures, tilting, foundation movement or displacement (rescue victims immediately, minimize number of rescuers inside.)

**Heavy** -- Obvious structural instability; partial or total wall collapse (do not attempt rescue, secure the area.)

## Hazards

**Fire** -- Suppress only fires you can safely handle, else secure the area.

**Gas Leak** -- Home (turn off gas at meter); Utility (secure the area).

**Water Leak** -- Turn off water at shutoff, if possible.

**Electrical** -- Home (turn off breakers); Utility (secure the area)

**Chemical** -- Secure the area.

## Reporting Critical Incidents

Our radio communication is a valuable resource. Use it to report only those incidents that constitute a threat to LIFE and SAFETY:

- Immediate medical incidents,
- Burning fire that threaten lives or neighboring property
- Hazards that are a threat to safety (those that you cannot handle)
- Structural damage with trapped victims.

If there is no other urgent radio traffic, report blockage of major transportation arteries that professional responders might need. Record all other incidents on the Damage Assessment Form and deliver the form to the Incident Command Center when appropriate.

## 2-WAY RADIO LANGUAGE & TERMS

Relaying information over the radio use these terms to construct your one-to-five word sentences:

BREAK	Emergency. (WHEN THIS IS SAID, THERE MUST BE RADIO SILENCE.)
REPEAT	
COPY	I understood.
STAND BY	Stop speaking and wait.
NEGATIVE	No.
AFFIRMATIVE	Yes/go ahead
CLEAR	All OK.
CLEARED, ICP	Understood your status report.
STATUS	Request for description of injury or physical damage.
SAY AGAIN/ COME AGAIN	Repeat.
CORRECTION	I made an error.
MORE TO FOLLOW	If your transmission is complicated & you need to say many words; more than 5.
I SPELL	If you are relaying contact info, location or type of chemicals, etc.
FIGURES	If you are going to give a phone number, birth date, age, etc.

If you need to leave your location, take a break or are done for the day: These are the proper terms. SIGNING OUT/PERMISSION TO LEAVE. Then, you can qualify "OUT" by saying, for instance:

- OUT 20 minutes.
- Signing OUT, for the day.
- PERMISSION TO LEAVE, activity in South driveway.?

After every transmission, wait for ICP response.

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Services: provides emergency communications in the conventional Amateur Radio Service without the need for an emergency declaration from the government but cannot offer Disaster Service Worker (DSW) insurance coverage
BPC	Block Preparedness Coordinator Part of PAN Eprep structure
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team. FEMA defined training program for first responders.
CERTnet	A predefined set of 12 amateur radio only frequencies in the 445-446 MHz range organized as one primary and one secondary channel for each of the six CERT response districts. Used for longer range team-ICP communications with-in a district.
EOC	Emergency Operation Center, Palo Alto's EOC is on the A-level of City Hall
Eprep	Emergency Preparedness
FRS	Family Radio Service. Low power, short range, 14 channel hand-held.  Channels 1-14 shared with GMRS
GMRS	General Mobile Radio Service. Most often sold as 22 channel hybrid GMRS/FRS low power, short range, hand-held radios operating in the 462-467 MHz range.  Channels 1- 14 shared with FRS. Except when i operating on channels 8-14, an \$85 per family license is required to operate on channels 1-7 at high power and on GMRS only channels 15-22
IC / ICC	Incident Commander / Incident Command Center
ICP	Incident Command Post. CERT ICPs are located at Palo Alto Fire stations 1-6 along with a trailer filled with equipment, radios, tools and medical supplies to support CERT's first responder mission.
MURS	Multi-Use Radio Service is a license-free two-way radio consisting of five channels in the 151-154 MHz range with a power limit of 2 watts
NPC	Neighborhood Preparedness Coordinator. Part of PAN Eprep structure
PAN	Palo Alto Neighborhoods
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services: Amateur radio operators who have previously registered with local governments to provide emergency radio communications for them in times of emergency when activated by the government.