

<b>RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY FIRE and RESCUE ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>NUMBER: 801</b>
<b>STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE</b>	PAGE 1 of 2
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Emergency Evacuation Alerting	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> 9/21/2012
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**PURPOSE:** To establish a method to evacuate a structure or area in a safe and rapid manner

**BACKGROUND:**

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Alert II Signal** The tone used by Communications to signal an emergency evacuation.

**Emergency Evacuation** A distinctive tone (Alert II Signal) transmitted over the necessary radio channel(s) by Communications at the direction of an incident commander to alert all personnel the need to immediately evacuate the involved structure or area.

**PAR Check** The process where the incident commander or division/group leader calls all assigned units to ensure the accountability of their personnel.

**POLICY:**

All units responding to an incident scene will discontinue the use of air horns when approaching within a quarter mile of the scene. This should be done on all incidents.

The incident commander identifies the need to evacuate and transmits the order to RAPPAHANNOCK "...sound the evacuation tones."

Communications shall sound the "Alert II Signal" three times, each time for five seconds.

Driver/operators, upon hearing the incident commander order an emergency evacuation, shall sound their apparatus air horn for **10 seconds**.

Upon hearing the evacuation order, all crews shall **immediately exit** the structure or area involved.

After evacuating, each unit officer shall account for their personnel. If there are unaccounted personnel, the officer shall immediately inform the incident commander or division/group supervisor as appropriate.

After all crews have exited the structure or involved area, the incident commander shall initiate a PAR Check of all assigned units.

Radio use shall be restricted to emergency traffic until the completion of the PAR Check.

The **Alert II Signal** shall be tested by Communications every Monday during evening announcements.