NERT Position Description: Emergency Response Staging Area Command Post Overview

Staging Area Command Post
The NERT Staging Area Command Post is the central point for command and control of incidents. The Staging Area Command Post objectives include:

- Providing leadership and structure to the team response
- Identifying the scope of the incident
- Determining an overall strategy
- Deploying teams and resources
- Communicating neighborhood needs and overall status to the assigned SFFD Battalion Station
- Relaying updated and helpful information to area residents
- Documenting actions and results

NERT volunteers must establish Incident Command System (ICS) at the Staging Area Command Post to respond to the emergency.

ICS System
The Incident Command System (ICS) is the system used by first responder agencies to manage emergency operations. When a Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) is activated for their neighborhood or workplace, they become part of that system. Here is how the SFFD NERT organization interrelates with the ICS:

- SFFD’s ICS operates from the Fire Department Operations Center (FDOC) at the Fire Department Administrative headquarters located at 698 2nd Street. In a disaster situation, the department decentralizes operations and the nine Battalion areas report to their assigned two Division Chiefs. The Division Chiefs report to the FDOC. The NERT teams become Task Forces of their assigned Battalion Station.
- The NERT Staging Area Task Force Leader (TFL) initially reports in by communicating with the assigned Battalion via ham radio through the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Net Control operator or via a runner.

This chart shows how the NERT Staging Area Command Post connects to the SFFD Incident Command System and then develops its own command structure.
SFFD Operations Center (FDOC)

Division Station

Battalion Station

NERT Staging Area Command Center

Task Force Leader

Logistics Leader

Planning Leader

Operations Leader

Supplies

Personnel

Situation Status

Map and Incident Status Board

Communications Operator and NET Control

Communications Scribe

Runners

Team Leader

Damage Assessment

Search & Rescue

Triage & Treatment

Fire Suppression & Utility Control

Evacuation

Administration

Operations

Leader

Personnel

Planning

Leader

Supplies

Logistics

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