



# Virginia Task Force 2

## Urban Search and Rescue

Administrative Manual

### Personal Communications Device Use

#### ISSUE STATEMENT

To provide VA-TF 2 members guidance and direction on the use of personal communications devices, social media, blogs, etc., while participating in task force exercises, training and US&R Mission Deployments.

#### REQUIRED ACTION

- The Task Force Leader will provide the Communications Level designation to all deployed members during the full team briefing prior to leaving the Point of Departure.
- Issued Task Force Communications devices such as Task Force cell phones, Blackberries, Iridium Satellite Phones provided to Task Force team members shall be limited to official task force business unless otherwise directed by the Task Force Leaders.
- The communications level will be based on the nature of the mission. US&R operational information while on deployment shall be considered sensitive until released by the Sponsoring Agency Chief or the Task Force Leader in charge of the team.
- Task Force members shall strictly adhere to the Communication Level status. Any member in violation of this directive shall be subject to disciplinary action.

#### Definitions

- Personal Communications devices are defined as member owned devices capable of two-way communications which include but not limited to handheld wireless devices, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA's), Cellular Phones, Laptop wireless cards, two-way pagers.
- **Communications Level 1** status as no outside communications to include the use of PCD's, text messages, social media which includes face book, twitter, tweets, blogs, etc. Also included are personal satellite phones and cameras.
- **Communications Level 2** status as the use of personal communications devices limited to personal communications to immediate family members only. At no time shall mission or team activities be discussed. At no time will photos be sent or postings permitted using social media.
- Communications Level designation shall be determined by the Task Force Leaders of the designated US&R Mission or Mobilization Exercise.