



# Garland Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

## Garland Amateur Radio Emergency Service



### Event/Incident Communications Net Descriptions

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There are typically three types of nets, which can be used during a RACES/ARES or public service event. They include; Tactical, Resource, and Command.

#### The Tactical Net

- The tactical net should always be used and is the working net. The size and nature of the event determine the net structure and types of nets needed. Traffic can range from requesting additional supplies to locating a lost child to request medical help. This net is used to move information and coordinate field unit activities.
- Tactical nets are the primary coordination nets for public service or emergency events. They will be directed nets, using tactical calls, restricted to traffic for the event/incident only. The NCS has absolute control over this net.
- Types of traffic you might hear on this net would be emergency traffic, message handling, coordination, situation reporting, and informal tactical communications. Traffic logging may generally be informal although some messages will be formal (written).
- The tactical net control operator will announce the operation of the resource net and direct volunteer operators to that frequency.
- This net type is referred to as an **Operations Net** in the NIMS structure.

In situations when the event is very large and radio traffic escalates beyond the capabilities of the Tactical net, additional nets may be added. In some cases additional nets may be pre-planned to anticipate the needs of the event, incident, or emergency.

#### The Resource Net

- The resource net is the primary supply net for public service or emergency events. NCS for the resource net works directly with the staging area manager. The resource net will be a directed net using FCC issued calls, normally restricted to traffic pertaining to the event/incident. All traffic goes through the NCS.
- The resource net is to handle non immediate response activities, acquire volunteers and equipment, accept work requests, make work assignments, and conduct situation briefings.
- The NCS will ask for specific people/equipment from the resource pool, as they are needed and make requested assignments. If needed, directions to the staging area will be given by the NCS. The resource net is also used as a check-in point before the assigned responder leaves for his/her assignment and check-out when assignment is completed.
- Accepts logistic requests from the tactical net and reports completions as requested. Traffic logging with formal (written) messages is generally the norm on the resource net.
- This net type is referred to as a **Logistics Net** in the NIMS structure.

#### The Command/Control Net

- The command/control net allows the event leadership to communicate with each other and resolve command, operations, or resource related problems. The net would also be used to allow EOC's, multiple nets, or event leaders to talk to each other. It is the responsibility of the command net control operator to limit communications to the event in progress. All other traffic is to be directed to and handled by the resource or tactical net. This net may also be operated as an informal net without a net control if leaders agree and conducted on simplex frequencies.
- This net type may be referred to as the **Command Net** in the ICS structure.