



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

DIRECTIVE

NUMBER: 00-23

DATE: October 4, 2000

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Gordon A. Aoyagi, Fire Administrator *Ray W. Thack for:*

SUBJECT: Inappropriate Use of County Paging System

It has come to my attention that certain Fire and Rescue Commissioners and other members of our service have received anonymous pages that were perceived and considered as inappropriate, harassing, objectionable and/or involving insinuations or innuendo. The use of County pagers for this purpose is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Appropriate investigative action is being initiated for the reported incidents and will be taken on future reported inappropriate use of County paging equipment.

Previously issued DFRS Directive 92-03, Subject: Alpha Paging Command, states that all CAD messages must be related to official fire department activities and must contain the name of the sender. **Accordingly, it is mandatory that messages sent to County pagers include the name or, at a minimum, the initials of the sender.**

In the formulation of public policy, there is place for healthy debate and discussion. Comments, both written and verbal, are encouraged to ensure that all aspects of an issue are considered and that all sides of an issue are explored. It is the foundation of our democratic principles that the author or presenter of such information is acknowledged and appropriately identified to achieve a full understanding of the matters presented. It is upon such representations that the merits of an issue are judged. Our members are encouraged to provide their comments in the appropriate formats. Anonymous statements do not promote communication or understanding.

cc: Fire and Rescue Commissioners