

## **SECTION VI— INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IMS)**

### **6.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMAND**

- 6.2.1 The ranking officer or senior fire fighter, if no officer is aboard in the first arriving fire department unit, shall initiate IMS by formally establishing command immediately upon arrival at the incident scene.
- 6.2.2 The ranking officer or senior fire fighter, when establishing command should not commit himself to interior operation unless his direct involvement is necessary to immediately mitigate the incident or his direct involvement will have an immediate positive impact affecting a rescue or fire attack. If the IC finds it necessary to commit to interior operations, the IC shall pass command to the next arriving officer or senior fire fighter as soon as reasonably possible. The officer or fire fighter establishing command shall use clear text terminology (i.e. "10-101 arriving on location, ... operating as Egg Harbor Road Command", "10-302 arriving on location, ... operating as Hollydell Command", "Engine 1023 arriving on location, ... 10-203 operating as Regal Command", etc.).
- 6.2.3 The initial incident commander shall remain in command until properly relieved by a higher-ranking officer. Proper relief includes; 1) a size-up of the incident, 2) a description of what action has been taken, 3) what divisions/resources have been deployed, and 4) any other significant information.
- 6.2.4 After initial size-up and implementation of an action plan, the IC shall take a "command position" or establish a command post. If a formal command post is not established, the accepted "command position" shall be in the general vicinity of Division "A".