Fire Department Organization, Command and Control

1. What are the four categories of fire departments?
   1. Volunteer, Paid-on-call, career, or combination

2. What are two necessary characteristics and behaviors of firefighters?
   1. Integrity, Moral Character, Work Ethic, Pride, Courage

3. What is the mission of the fire service?
   1. The mission of the fire service is to save lives and protect property, and this is also the mission of every fire department and firefighter.

4. What is unity of command?
   1. Unity of command means you report to only one supervisor.

5. Name two types of fire companies and their functions.
   1. Engine company – deploys hoselines for fire attack and exposure protection.
   2. Truck (ladder) company – Performs forcible entry, search & rescue, ventilation, salvage and overhaul, and utilities control and provides access to upper levels of a structure.
   3. Rescue squad/company – Searches for and removes victims from areas of danger or entrapment and may perform technical rescues.
   4. Brush company – Extinguishes wildland fires and protects structures in the wildland/urban interface
   5. Hazardous materials company
   6. Emergency medical/Ambulance company
   7. Special rescue company

6. Name three types of fire service functions and their personnel.
   1. Responding to and controlling fires – Firefighter I & II
   2. Overseeing a depts. OSHA program – FD Health & Safety Officer
   3. Monitor operations during emergency situations – FD Incident Safety Officer

7. What are standard operating procedures (SOPs)?
   1. Standard methods or rules in which an organization or a fire department operates to carry out a routine function. A SOP may specify the functional limitations of fire brigade members in performing emergency operations.

8. What are the major subdivisions within the ICS structure?
   1. Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration

9. Define the following ICS terms: Command, Group, Strike Team, Supervisor.
   1. Command - The act of directing and/or controlling resources by virtue of explicit legal, agency, or delegated authority. May also refer to the Incident Commander.
   2. Group - An organizational level of the Operations Section that partitions resources based on major operational functions. Groups (or divisions) are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief.
   3. Strike Team - An organizational level of the Operations Section, below the division/group level, that contains multiple single resources of the same kind (function) and type (performance capability).
   4. Supervisor - Individual assigned to supervise a particular division or group within the Operations Section.