



# General Order

## Department of Fire & EMS

G.O. #: 4-1-25

**Subject:** Gender neutral radio terminology

**Date:** April 1, 2025

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Effective on April 1, 2025, at 0700 we will curtail the use of “Man, manning and manpower” in any DFEMS radio communications. The proper and official term will now be “Staffing”

Given that we are in the year 2025 and there are an estimated 98,000 women who are engaged in Fire & EMS departments nationally, it is most appropriate to transition to this terminology. This will be both an operational and a cultural change to our communications procedures. Several examples as to the application of this are as follows:

*“Units responding on fire box 3-1 your staffing is 28 personnel”*

*“Chief 12 to Carroll what is my total staffing?”*

*“Medic 59 to Carroll, dispatch a unit for staffing assist”*

*“Command to Engine 91 send your staffing to division 2”*

This will take some time to adjust to. Accordingly, the personnel at the ECC will provide appropriate feedback for a period of time until a complete transition occurs. This should also be reflected in your NFIRS (NERIS) and eMeds narratives as well as relevant operational correspondences. Your focus and cooperation regarding this transition is sincerely appreciated.