ZONE 1 (A on top ABC switch) notes:

- Disp West- Outbound dispatching channel, you may acknowledge traffic, but do not call on this channel.

  EMS-2W All EMS traffic for Districts 2, 4, and 12. All other Districts will be assigned to EMS-1W. You may have multiple calls simultaneously on this talk group.

- FireGround-2W single company fire calls for Districts 2, 4, and 12. All other Districts will be assigned to FireGround-1W. You may have multiple calls simultaneously on this talk group.

- FireGround 3W thru 9W are single incident responses i.e. Fire alarms. Structure fires, MVA's etc. A single incident is assigned to the talk group.

- INFOWEST Used to contact dispatch for whatever needed like item numbers, channel assignments, call in a MVA or a walk in medical.

- FD4 EXEC is our executive talk group. May be used for hydrant testing/etc. Dispatch can monitor and use this channel.

- FD4 T/A is an old LWIN talk group assigned to us by the state. It is operation and can be used as a backup talk around channel (hydrants, etc.). Dispatch does not monitor this channel. This talk group will possibly be shut down and eliminated sometime in the future.

- MPD4 can't be used at the present time due to encryption issues. MPD dispatch can hear you but they have to turn off encryption on their console in order to talk back. Do not use until we get these technical issues resolved.

- Our tones over DISP WEST will be the same tones that we presently use over the VHF system. You will also hear tones from other departments on DISP WEST.

- There are 2 tones that will can alert your radio that are specific. One is a Parish All Call which wakes up every fire department radio in the parish that is on DISP WEST. The other is the EVAC tone which could be sent out over an individual fireground as an "evacuate the building" tone.

ZONE 2 (B on top ABC switch) Notes:

- The City of Covington who will eventually dispatch on their own Dispatch channel (CFD DISP) for them and STFD13. They will use CFD FG and FD13FG for their fire ground operations. You will be assigned to one of these if responding mutual aid to a CFD or STFD13 call.

- Training 1W and 2W can be requested for use by the training division for running scenarios or as a safety channel.

- FD OPS 1W can be requested for use on scenes for something like a Haz-Mat entry team or if a separate specialty channel is needed on a large scale incident.

- The FDOPS East channels-large scale mutual aid Haz-Mat. Must get permission from STFD1 Dispatch to use.

- LERN Hail, R9, LVRMC and STPH were all duplicated in the bottom of B zone so that these channels could be accessed easily from top of radio using ABC switch instead of having to pull the radio from holster to access it from main screen.

General Notes:

- Scan switch (on/off switch on big knob) turns on and off scan. A "Z" symbol will appear on screens when scan is on. Scan is only set to monitor DISP WEST and FD4EXEC. That is it for the present time. This may be adjusted and tweaked at a later date.

- VMUTE is on the side main screen menu. If VMUTE is turned on, the radio is completely SILENT (regardless of channel selected) and will only open up with activation of a FD4 tone.

- The EMERGENCY button is hot. If held for over 600 milliseconds, it will activate! It automatically opens your mic for 15 seconds on a special emergency talk group that only dispatch can hear (this is to prevent feeding back into other radios on scene). The procedure for resetting will be posted in a separate email detailing EMERGENCY button guidelines.

- The screen side of the radio is the BACK SIDE. The little mic hole above the screen is a noise cancellation mic. DO NOT TALK INTO THIS SIDE. In a high noise environment, speak slowly and clearly into the Mic on the front side of the radio with approx. 1" spacing between mouth and mic. Make sure the noise cancellation mic on the back is not covered by anything and is facing the noise. The noise cancellation software will cancel out the scene noise it picks up and make your transmission much clearer to everyone else.

- EVERYTHING on the system is recorded with the radio's alias (identifier) attached. The dispatchers can force a radio off the system from the console if needed.

- The purple side button turns on and off the screen lights. Hold the Button down and it will flip the top display.

- The bottom side button shows the radio's RSSI (radio signal strength indicator) which is how strong of a signal the radio has to the system. Holding the button down will force a reset and reconnection to the system (a good thing to try if you are experiencing a connection problem).