

## Section 5.8: Dispatch Tones and Pre-Alerts

Texas A&M EMS utilizes a tone system to alert the on-duty crews and other personnel of calls for service and other general announcements. There are two methods to broadcast tones when necessary: one is using the P25 console and the other is using the tone encoder. The following lists the procedures for both systems.

1. Console System
  - a. **Alert Tone** – To advise units of a pending call or for general broadcast announcement
    - i. Press the number **1** on the console
  - b. **Dispatch Tone** – To send any unit to a call
    - ii. Press the number **2** on the console
  - c. In the event that the console is not working, the tone encoder by the EMS1 radio should be used.
2. Keypad Code Unit for Tone Encoder
  - a. 00P Alert Tones, Response Fours
  - b. 18P 811, On-duty EMS Supervisor/Paramedic
  - c. 41P 841, Bike Team
  - d. 42P 842, Bike Team
  - e. 43P 843, Bike Team
  - f. 61P 861, Ambulance
  - g. 62P 862, Ambulance
  - h. 63P 863, Ambulance
  - i. 64P 864, Ambulance

Pre-alerts are necessary to alert the crew of an incoming call, and allow the crew to move towards the truck and/or campus if they are away from it at the time of the call. It should be used for every emergency incident, even if the crew is on a separate call or otherwise unavailable. The dispatcher can accomplish this by using the alert tone on the console. In the event of console malfunction, the dispatcher may use the tone encoder alert tones or simply transmit over the radio during entry questions, “EMS taking call”.