

RGV AuxComm Team Code of Conduct



Purpose

This Code of Conduct defines the conduct, discipline, and trust standards for all RGV AuxComm members, applicants, leaders, and volunteers.

RGV AuxComm exists to provide reliable auxiliary communications support through trained volunteers who understand that successful emergency communications require more than equipment and technical skill. Our work depends on judgment, self-control, teamwork, radio discipline, respect for served partners, and the ability to operate calmly under direction.

Core Standard

Members shall conduct themselves in a manner that reflects professionalism, reliability, humility, technical competence, emotional discipline, and respect for the public-service mission of RGV AuxComm.

Every member represents the credibility of the team. Trust is built through steady behavior, accurate communication, good judgment, and service before ego.

Member Expectations

Members are expected to:

Act professionally on and off the air.

Follow lawful instructions during authorized operations, exercises, nets, and events.

Use clear, brief, and disciplined radio procedure.

Respect public-safety, emergency-management, community, nonprofit, and volunteer partners.

Work cooperatively with other operators, net control stations, leadership, and served partners.

Protect sensitive, private, operational, and personally identifiable information.

Avoid public speculation during incidents, exercises, or partner operations.

Maintain accurate logs, forms, and records when assigned.

Train within their ability and avoid overstating their skills, access, authority, or experience.

Ask for help when uncertain.

Accept correction professionally.

Support team cohesion and avoid conduct that damages trust in the team.

Represent RGV AuxComm honestly and accurately.

Prohibited Conduct

Members shall not:

Self-deploy to emergency scenes, EOCs, shelters, staging areas, public-safety facilities, or incident locations.

Interfere with public-safety, emergency-management, medical, fire, law-enforcement, utility, or response operations.

Claim authority, access, credentials, titles, or agency affiliation they do not have.

Use RGV AuxComm for personal status, control, politics, ego, intimidation, or personal gain.

Harass, threaten, bully, demean, or intimidate others.

Disclose private, sensitive, operational, or partner information without authorization.

Release incident information, team information, photos, recordings, screenshots, or operational details without authorization.

Use team resources, channels, events, or identity for political campaigning or personal business.

Operate outside FCC rules, law, partner requirements, or team procedures.

Misrepresent training, credentials, clearances, assignments, capability, access, or authority.

Create unnecessary conflict, drama, confusion, or reputational risk for the team.

Radio Conduct

Members shall:

Use plain language unless directed otherwise.

Keep transmissions brief, relevant, and professional.

Identify properly under FCC rules.

Follow net control during directed nets.

Use standard phonetics when clarity is needed.

Avoid profanity, arguments, jokes, sarcasm, side conversations, or speculation on operational frequencies.

Confirm important messages before relaying them.

Use tactical call signs only when assigned and appropriate.

Avoid transmitting unverified information as fact.

Yield immediately to emergency or priority traffic.

Respect repeater owners, system trustees, and local operating norms.

Operational Conduct

During authorized operations, exercises, public-service events, and nets, members shall operate with discipline, patience, and situational awareness.

Members shall understand that RGV AuxComm supports served partners; it does not command them. The role of the operator is to communicate clearly, document accurately, relay information reliably, and support the mission without adding confusion, opinion, or ego.

No communications task is more important than safety.

Members shall not enter unsafe areas, obstruct responders, bypass established procedures, or take independent action outside their assignment.

Teamwork and Interpersonal Conduct

RGV AuxComm places high value on the human side of auxiliary communications. Technical skill is important, but it is not enough by itself.

Members are expected to demonstrate:

Calm under pressure.

Respect for direction.

Patience with newer operators.

Willingness to learn.

Willingness to be corrected.

Clear thinking during stress.

Professional disagreement.

Reliability when assigned a task.

Awareness of how their words and behavior affect trust.

A service-first mindset.

Members shall not use knowledge, license class, experience, radio equipment, public-safety background, emergency-management familiarity, or leadership access to dominate, belittle, exclude, or control others.

Conflict Management

Members should resolve disagreements privately, respectfully, and professionally whenever possible.

Disputes affecting operations, safety, reputation, partner relationships, or team cohesion shall be brought to leadership.

Members are expected to separate personal disagreement from mission performance. During an operation, net, exercise, or event, the mission comes first.

Public Communication

Members shall not speak for RGV AuxComm, public-safety agencies, emergency management, nonprofit partners, community partners, or served agencies unless authorized.

Members shall not post, publish, stream, record, photograph, or publicly discuss operational details, partner communications, incident information, team disputes, or sensitive matters without authorization.

Public statements about RGV AuxComm should be accurate, professional, and consistent with the team's mission.

Privacy and Information Protection

Members shall protect private, sensitive, operational, medical, personal, partner, and incident-related information.

Information heard on the air, received during an assignment, shared by a partner, or obtained through team activity shall not be repeated, posted, forwarded, or discussed outside the proper operational channel unless authorized.

Enforcement

Violations may result in counseling, correction, temporary restriction, removal from an assignment, suspension, or removal from membership depending on severity.

Leadership may act immediately when conduct creates risk to safety, operations, partner trust, team reputation, or legal compliance.

Membership in RGV AuxComm is a privilege of trust, not a right.

Closing Standard

RGV AuxComm members are expected to bring useful skill, calm judgment, disciplined communication, and a cooperative spirit to every net, exercise, event, and operation.

The standard is simple: serve the mission, protect trust, respect partners, follow direction, communicate clearly, and leave the team stronger than you found it.

RGV AuxComm Team