

Oly-Comm Radio Codes:

For maximum clarity in voice communications **Oly-Comm** operators are encouraged to become familiar with, and converse in, standardized language. Numerous examples of serious, negative consequence exist as a result of poor communication.

Why use the Law Enforcement (LE) alphabet as opposed to the ITU?

Primarily - Similar letters like D's and B's may sound the same over fuzzy radio traffic. Using the **LE** alphabet makes what you're trying to say more obvious, and minimizes error by clarifying the letters. **Secondarily** – Oly-Comm operators are more likely to interface with Civilian Agencies than Military. However, a familiarity of both coding systems would be useful.

Some areas share radio/scanner traffic between agencies, which means that multiple units may be listening in at any given time. For the sake of clarity and precision, it is important that radio traffic be standardized to be clearly understood.

Even though spelling things out using the **LE** alphabet may take slightly longer than using regular letters, it's still more likely to reduce radio chatter by eliminating the need to repeat messages. **LE** departments use a mixture of plain English, 10 codes and the phonetic alphabet in order to keep radio communication as brief as possible.

Other Alphabets

An alternative is the ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Phonetic alphabet. Both are displayed below:

Letter	ITU Phonetic Alphabet	Common US Law Enforcement	Letter	ITU Phonetic Alphabet	Common US Law Enforcement
A	Alfa	Adam	N	November	Nora
B	Bravo	Boy	O	Oscar	Ocean
C	Charlie	Charlie	P	Papa	Paul
D	Delta	David	Q	Quebec	Queen
E	Echo	Edward	R	Romeo	Robert
F	Foxtrot	Frank	S	Sierra	Sam
G	Golf	George	T	Tango	Tom
H	Hotel	Henry	U	Uniform	Union
I	India	Ida	V	Victor	Victor
J	Juliett	John	W	Whiskey	William
K	Kilo	King	X	X-Ray	X-Ray
L	Lima	Lincoln	Y	Yankee	Young
M	Mike	Mary	Z	Zulu	Zebra