

# **San Francisco Fire Department**

## **Division of Training**

### **Training Bulletin 22-5**



## **New Low-Pressure Hydrant Marking Standard**

**April 2022**

## New Low-Pressure Hydrant Marking Standard

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has been purchasing low-pressure hydrants from a new vendor, the Mueller Company. They are less expensive, higher quality, and easier to maintain.

When spindles are damaged because of vandalism, they can be replaced in the field without having to remove the entire hydrant. They also have an anti-corrosion coating on both the inside and the outside of the hydrant. This coating will prevent the excessive rust problem that many of our older low-pressure hydrants suffer from. However, this coating prevents the new hydrants from having the hydrant markings stamped on the hydrant in the traditional manner. Removing the protective coating to stamp or engrave information causes the hydrant to rust.

The new marking standard for the Mueller Company hydrants is to stamp the information on the bronze face of the upper outlet. However, in a certain light, the bronze faces of the outlets can look like black out-of-service discs. This optical peculiarity could cause an engine company to pass by a functional hydrant in search of a supply.

To avoid confusion, the Water Department has begun the process of painting the out-of-service discs to **RED**. Effectively immediately **RED** discs will be used to designate a hydrant as being out of service.

The hydrant pictured below is a new Mueller hydrant. Note the bronze outlet faceplates are the same color and shape as the black "out of service" discs that are currently being used.

