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# Waterloo Vol Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

## **SEAT BELTS**

Responding to and returning from incidents continually results in the second leading cause of firefighter line of duty death. Safety belts have been proven to be an optimum method of reducing deaths and the severity of injuries to firefighters in the event of a collision. As a result of this, it shall be the policy of the Waterloo Vol. Fire Department that drivers, under the direction and direct supervision of an officer if present, shall not move fire apparatus until all persons are seated and secured with seat belts in approved riding positions, other than in the following situations:

- 1) While involved in hose loading operations which must be conducted in accordance with the policy for this evolution.
- 2) While providing ongoing and necessary patient care within the patient compartment of a duly authorized fire department ambulance.

Standing or riding on tailsteps, sidesteps, running boards, or in any other exposed position shall be specifically prohibited.