



# INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

July 17, 2009

TO: All Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Personnel **Memo #09-27**

FROM: Eugene A. Jones  
Fire Chief

RE: Identification of Persons Involved in Emergency Incidents

Emergency incidents are inherently stressful situations, with many procedures and actions needing to be taken simultaneously with the appropriate decision-making process. It is also vitally important; however, that all possible efforts are made to properly identify persons involved in emergency incidents. This ensures that the appropriate entities receive accurate, timely information, allowing them to make notifications to the next of kin for those who cannot speak for themselves due to the severity of the incident.

All members of the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department are reminded that they are responsible to make every effort to determine if persons involved in an incident have identification. This includes checking to see if they may have identification in the pockets of their clothing. No patient should be transported as a "John Doe" unless all avenues have been exhausted for identification.

EAJ/VS/mjw/slt

*2009.07.17 AFEMSP Memo #09-27 – Identification of Persons Involved in Emergency Incidents.doc*