



NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Department of EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

TOPIC: Concept of Operations for Station 31	SOG #: 2.4.4
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Status: ACTIVE	Written: 05/30/2011
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Approved by: Hollye B. Carpenter	Adopted: 01/01/2013

PURPOSE

1. To ensure prompt and adequate emergency medical response for all citizens of Northampton County without impacting or minimizing volunteer efforts within the first 8 minutes of an event.
2. To put adequate personnel on an emergency scene in the first minutes when most lifesaving actions take place.
3. To help ensure the safety of County staff, by providing additional resources when needed.
4. To assist any volunteer ambulance crew (minimum of a BLS attendant-in-charge and a driver) with extra personnel, as requested.

SCOPE

Ambulance 31-1 shall be staffed for various shifts as assigned. Special events will be prearranged and scheduled accordingly.

CONTENT

1. **Two-person staffing:** Medic 31-1 will function as an “ALS Zone” vehicle, with transport capabilities, unless the first due station fails to respond. If a volunteer ambulance does not respond within 8 minutes, Medic 31-1 will proceed with handling the call.
2. **Three-person staffing:** When three-person staffing is available, a tiered response will be enacted at the discretion of the Duty Supervisor or most Senior ALS Provider. Specific unit response will be based on known volunteer unit staffing.



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- 3. Volunteer ambulance response:** Medic 31-1 will assist the volunteer ambulance with patient care as requested, just as if an “ALS Zone” response. In most cases, Medic 31-1 will follow to the hospital to retrieve crew and to be available for another call.
- 4. Patients brought to Station 31:** Patients brought directly to Station 31 will be transported by Medic 31-1 (when a crew is available) in order to avoid delaying treatment unnecessarily.
- 5. Responses to the near vicinity around Station 31:** When staffed, Station 31 will respond to the scene while the volunteer station is paged. County personnel will act as “ALS Zone” staff would for the first 8 minutes, which is as in a “treat and transfer care” mode. After 8 minutes Medic 31-1 will transport the patient if there is no volunteer ambulance response. If the patient’s needs are of such a serious nature where immediate transport is required, the 8 minute time allowance will not be considered.