



NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Department of EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

TOPIC: FIRE SCENE OPERATIONS	SOG #: 2.9
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Approved by: Hollye B. Carpenter	Adopted: 01/01/2013

PURPOSE

To outline the responsibilities of the EMS providers during fire scene operations

SCOPE

All department EMS personnel

CONTENT

Upon Dispatch:

- Any EMS personnel responding from the station shall don issued EMS protective gear prior to response.
- If responding from another call, EMS protective gear shall be donned prior to or immediately upon arrival on scene.

Upon Arrival on Scene (in order of priority):

1. If first arriving, advise dispatch of visible (windshield) fire/smoke status;
2. Stage in area as near to the scene as possible as not to interfere with the arrival of fire apparatus and deployment of fire operations. This area should be located outside of the "fire operation work zone";
3. Gather information regarding occupancy of the structure and provide this information to incoming command, requesting additional EMS resources if needed. Once incident command has been established any requests for resources must be directed through them;
4. Assist any occupants and involved bystanders with whatever their needs may be, with medical related issues the priority;
5. First arriving EMS shall not become involved in fire operations.

EMS Operations for a Working Fire:

1. An ambulance arriving on scene shall remain staffed with a minimum of a two person crew (driver & attendant) at all times, unless extenuating circumstances deem this impossible. This crew is not required to remain outfitted in EMS Protective Gear, unless operating in the "fire operation work zone".
2. The ambulance crew will remain ready to provide emergency care to anyone who may become injured during fire operations and/or ready to respond on another incident if released by command to do so.



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3. In the event NCEMS Zone is the only EMS vehicle on scene, paging should continue for the response of an ambulance and this EMS provider shall stand ready as referenced in #2.
4. "Rehab" operations, shall be established only at the direction of the Incident Command and in a location of incident command's choice. This location should be in an area where fire operations are not being performed.
5. In an incident where formal "rehab" operations are not required, the EMS crew may, once all "emergency" fire operations are complete provide fire personnel with refreshments. This will typically be during the clean-up phase. If entering into the "fire operations work zone", full EMS Protective Gear must be worn.
6. EMS units may not clear until released by incident command.

Additional EMS Personnel on scene:

1. Provided all EMS needs, listed above are met, additional EMS personnel (*does not include designated attendant and driver*) may assist in other fire ground operations. This may include, but not be limited to, EMS Command, Safety Officer, Accountability, directing traffic, extra hands. Any involvement in additional activities of EMS personnel is at the discretion of the individual; however it may be scrutinized, during and/or after by an EMS Officer.
2. Any time EMS personnel are within the "fire operations work zone" full EMS Protective Gear shall be worn.
3. Under no circumstance is an EMS employee to directly engage in fire fighting activities, as we do not have the proper gear to do so.