

BLACKWOOD FIRE COMPANY OPERATING GUIDELINE

4.2 FIRE APPARATUS CRASH OR MAJOR EQUIPMENT DAMAGE

- 4.2.1 Apparatus involved in a crash will immediately notify Camden County Communications and request the response of the appropriate police agency. A scene size up shall be conducted, and the appropriate fire and/or EMS resources shall be requested.
- 4.2.2 Apparatus involved in a crash while responding to a call for service shall immediately notify Camden County Communications that the apparatus is out of service and needs to be replaced on the assignment.
- 4.2.3 The only exception shall be in the case of a very minor non-injury crash, where the involved apparatus is needed at an emergency incident scene for the preservation of life and/or property. This direction should be provided by an on scene IC in most cases. In those cases, the apparatus shall stop at the scene, and the officer shall confirm that damage is minimal, no one is injured, and the apparatus is safe to drive. The other driver(s) or property owner(s) involved shall be advised of the identification of the apparatus and driver, and instructed to remain at the scene pending the arrival of the police. The apparatus officer shall contact the investigating police officer immediately after completion of their assignment at the emergency scene so a proper investigation can be conducted.
- 4.2.4 The Chief, the ranking line officer at the incident, the Operations Commissioner and/or the Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners shall be notified as soon as possible of all apparatus crashes, major equipment damage (engine, transmission, pump tower, etc...), or any time an apparatus must be removed from service.
- 4.2.5 All apparatus crashes and major equipment damage incidents will be investigated by a panel consisting of 2 line officers, 2 commissioners, and 2 firefighters. The purpose of the investigation will be to identify the root cause(s) of the incident, and to recommend the necessary action to prevent future occurrences (i.e. additional training, policy changes, apparatus upgrades, etc...).
- 4.2.6 Helmrich Towing Systems, 4450 Marlton Pike, Pennsauken, New Jersey, 856-665-2666 shall be the only company authorized to tow or winch full size fire department apparatus (E-841, E-842, R-84, TL-84).

Revised March 2009