

# BLACKWOOD FIRE COMPANY OPERATING GUIDELINE

## 1.11 INCIDENT RESPONSE - EMS FIRST RESPONDER

### Response Procedures

- 1.11.1 Apparatus equipped with EMS equipment and staffed by qualified personnel may run as EMS First Responder Units. First Responder runs will be those dispatched as "EMS Engine 84".
- 1.11.2 Each station will have a primary response area. Areas west of SH 42 will be the primary response area for the Central Avenue Station, and areas east of SH 42 will be the primary response area for the Blackwood-Clementon Road Station.
- 1.11.3 First Responder assignments will utilize the E-7 frequency for the duration of the run, unless otherwise instructed.
- 1.11.4 A First Responder assignment will be dispatched when the following conditions exist:
- 1) Squad 80 is unavailable for a life threatening emergency.
  - 2) Any pedestrian motor vehicle accident.
  - 3) Any cardiac or respiratory arrest.
  - 4) When special called by another fire or EMS agency.
- 1.11.5 First Responder assignments will be dispatched one time only. If the unit is unable to respond due to lack of qualified staffing, the assignment will be recorded as a non-response.
- 1.11.6 First Responder assignments shall be staffed by a minimum of 1 First Responder and/or EMT and 1 firefighter. Members with medical training will receive priority in staffing the apparatus in the following order:
- Emergency Medical Technician
  - First Responder
  - Advanced First Aid
  - Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- 1.11.7 Members responding to the station in whose local the run occurs will have primary responsibility for handling the assignment. Members should respond to their station and staff apparatus regardless of the location. Apparatus from the opposite station should respond without signing on radio and

monitor for the primary unit to respond. If the primary unit responds, the first unit will cancel its' response and return to station without use of the radio. If it becomes apparent that no apparatus from the primary station is responding, the apparatus from the opposite station should sign on responding when approaching the opposite station and then handle the call.

## **Patient Care**

- 1.11.8 Members responding shall provide patient care within the scope of their training.
- 1.11.9 Personnel rendering treatment shall document all treatment and patient information on the NFIRS Response Report.
- 1.11.10 If a patient refuses care, the treating firefighter should attempt to obtain the signature of the patient on a Refusal of Treatment Form. This should be accompanied by a witness signature (police officer, relative, etc..). If the patient refuses to sign the form, two witness signatures should be obtained.
- 1.11.11 Examination gloves, safety glasses, and surgical masks are provided for the safety and protection of responding members. IAW OG# 7.7, their use is mandatory on all incidents where contact with the patient's bodily fluids is possible. It is imperative that all members involved in patient care use the appropriate level of personal protection. Members involved in patient care shall also use the provided chloride based germicide to decontaminate at the scene.

## **Equipment and Supplies**

- 1.11.12 Upon return to quarters, all equipment used shall be disinfected and checked. All supplies expended shall be replaced from the EMS cabinet in the Central Avenue Station apparatus room. Equipment sent to the hospital with the patient should be noted on the report and the dry erase board, and Squad 80 should be requested to pick it up on their next trip to the hospital.