

Northampton County EMS Response Plan

PURPOSE

This document is implemented to provide the necessary basis for coordination of emergency responses in the County. This document will serve as both operational and administrative guidelines.

ORIGIN

From a request received from the Virginia Office of EMS for the designated response agencies of Northampton County (Community Fire Company, Inc., Northampton Fire & Rescue, Inc., Cape Charles Rescue Service, Inc. and Northampton County Department of EMS) to develop a written local EMS response plan.

CONTENT

DESIGNATION of EMERGENCY RESPONSE AGENCIES by BOUNDARIES

1. District 1 ~ Community Fire Company, Inc.
 - To the north by and including Coal Kiln Road in Accomack County
 - To the south by and including Milton Ames Drive/Brickhouse Road
2. District 2 ~ Northampton Fire & Rescue, Inc.
 - To the north by including Milton Ames Drive/Brickhouse Road
 - To the south by Cherrydale Drive
3. District 3 ~ Cape Charles Rescue Service, Inc.
 - To the north by and including Cherrydale Drive
 - To the south by the northern entrance to the first tunnel of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Each agency is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west by the Chesapeake Bay. Responses may include entering into areas of these two bodies of water, with the assistance of the United States Coast Guard, Virginia Marine Resources the Virginia Game Commission and/or other agencies.

The Northampton County Department of EMS may supplement staffing of volunteer EMS units per the mutual aid agreement set forth.

STANDARDS

NCEMS Mobilization Standard = 3 minutes, if staffed.

- Elapsed time in minutes between the dispatch time of NCEMS and the responding time (the wheels of the zone vehicle start moving)

Volunteer Ambulance Mobilization Standard = 8 minutes.

- Elapsed time in minutes between the dispatch time of the EMS agency and the responding time (the wheels of the EMS vehicle start moving)

Volunteer Ambulance Responding Interval Standard = 20 minutes.

- Elapsed time in minutes between the dispatch time and the arrive on scene time (the wheels of the EMS vehicle stop moving)
- ***This interval will be complied with on a 90% basis within its primary service area.***

ALERT of EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT

Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company, Community Fire Company, Cheriton Volunteer Fire Company, Northampton Fire & Rescue and Eastville Volunteer Fire Company provide "Hurst Tool" type equipment necessary for the extrication of pinned or trapped patient(s). The **two**

closest companies will be alerted. Cancellation will only occur once the patient(s) have been removed from the wreckage.

DUAL ALERTING OF CALLS

- All calls designated by dispatch as a cardiac or respiratory arrest.
- All second calls within a district, where the first due ambulance is committed to another call.
- As designated under the following alert procedures.

ALERT PROCEDURES DAYTIME (6a to 6p, Monday through Friday) ~ Designated NCEMS Staffing Hours of Volunteer Stations

1. Initial emergency call alerting shall be for the first due emergency response agency. The Director or Duty Supervisor of the Northampton County Department of EMS reserves the right to send the closest volunteer EMS transport unit available.
2. If the first due EMS unit is already on a call, the closest fully staffed EMS unit shall be dual alerted.
3. If an EMS unit, in the first due district, is not staffed or is staffed with only one certified Attendant-in-Charge, the second due company shall be dual alerted as "medical assist." If after (3) minutes from the time of alert, additional staffing has not arrived or made contact, the first due unit may respond, provided a "medical assist" unit is available and responding. Response without known assistance shall be at the full discretion of the attendant.
4. In both the above cases, the first due agency will continue to be paged until one of the following occurs; an ambulance arrives on scene or the first due unit responds.
5. In the event two units arrive on scene, the first ambulance arriving will be responsible for transport, utilizing whatever staff necessary, unless other arrangements are made. Any EMS vehicle(s) left on scene will be fully secured, and when possible, arrangements will be made to remove all EMS vehicles from the scene.

ALERT PROCEDURES NIGHTS (6P-6A), WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS (6A-6P) ~Designated NCEMS ALS Zone Staffing Hours

1. Initial emergency call dispatch shall be dual alerting for the first due emergency response agency and NCEMS. NCEMS Zone shall respond on the first call alerted in the county, unless otherwise directed by the dispatcher.
2. The first due emergency response agency shall make every effort to provide a full crew for any call. The volunteer AIC may cancel NCEMS Zone response after having arrived on the scene and determined the volunteer crew can adequately handle the call and deliver the appropriate patient care needed.
3. If within six (8) minutes, a full crew has not answered up, the second due will be alerted. Alerting of additional agencies will continue every eight (8) until the call is answered.
4. If the first due agency does not respond, paging of the first due agency shall continue until one of the following occurs: an ambulance arrives on scene or the first due agency responds.
5. If the designated emergency response agency finds it is able to respond to the patient location sooner than the mutual aid agency, the EMS agency shall notify Rescue Dispatch of its availability to respond. In most situations the closest ambulance will handle the call.
6. If a designated emergency response agency determines in advance it will be unable to respond for emergency service for a specified period of time, it will notify Rescue Dispatch.

DOCUMENTATION of COMPLIANCE

The "Station Liaisons" will be responsible for quarterly reviews of the exceptions, to the established EMS response capability and time interval standards. The results of this review will be provided to Dr. Richard Hatch, Operational Medical Director and the Northampton County Board of Supervisors for analysis.

Joseph D. Anglin EMS Liaison 12/30/08
(Name, Title, Date) Community Fire Company, Inc.

James A. LeCote PRESIDENT/chief 12/30/08
(Name, Title, Date) Northampton Fire & Rescue, Inc.

Walter G. ... PRESIDENT 12-30-08
(Name, Title, Date) Cape Charles Rescue Service, Inc.

Harold B. ... EMS DIRECTOR 12/30/08
(Name, Title, Date) Northampton County Department of EMS