

## **660 EMS OPERATIONS**

### **PURPOSE:**

The number one priority in emergency service work is life safety. As a result the fire department response to several alarms where the need to perform life saving techniques is critical. In addition, although EMS falls under the direction and control of the Florence Township Municipal Government who provides this service with two (2) volunteer first aid squad, there are instances where fire department arrive on-scene prior to the first aid squads. Therefore, this policy is to establish a procedure for Fire Department EMS responses within Florence Township.

### **SCOPE:**

All Florence Township Fire Department personnel are covered under this policy.

### **PROCEDURES:**

1. CAREER PERSONNEL
  - A. The Fire Chief is responsible for the EMS operations in the Florence Township Fire Department.
  - B. The fire department has been given the responsibility to support the EMS operations during limited hours. Career personnel provide this service and are responsible to respond to all EMS alarms during their specified work shift. (Exceptions: the responsibility to staff a second ambulance during these hours will stay with the volunteer first aid squads.)
  - C. Personnel are to support the volunteer EMS service. Career personnel are expected to follow the EMS chain of command at all EMS incidents and may be re-called by a volunteer crew without question.
  
2. VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL
  - A. Fire Apparatus is equipped with basic EMS equipment to be used by personnel who have been trained and approved by their station officer.
  - B. Personnel are authorized to use the EMS equipment when needed in cooperation with other EMS services or prior to the arrival of the EMS provider.
  - C. When fire department personnel are administering first aid to a patient and an EMS crew arrives, fire department personnel are instructed to brief the EMS personnel on actions that were taken and to turn over the patient to the transport service. Fire department members are permitted to continue rendering patient care and to help transport the patient to the hospital when requested by the EMS provider.
  - D. Fire department members working at an EMS incident are only covered under the fire department on alarms that the fire department was dispatched too. There may be times when a fire department member is working at an EMS incident which the fire department was not dispatched too. In this case the member is considered a citizen responder and will be considered working under the Good Samaritan Act.