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## Ocean City Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

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### Emergency Vehicle Operations

Subject: Fire Department Driver/Operator Qualifications and Training Requirements

Revised: 15 September 2018

Approved: 18 December 2018

Effective: 1 February 2019

Section: 450.00

#### 450.01 Purpose

To establish a comprehensive driver/operator training and education program that will provide members with the skills and knowledge necessary to reduce vehicle accidents, limit injuries to themselves and the public, and perform the tasks necessary to operate effectively on emergency incidents.

#### 450.02 Scope

This document covers all personnel who operate fire department vehicles in the emergency mode.

#### 450.03 Driver/Operator Selection

A. All operators of Fire Department vehicles shall have a valid driver's license, of the proper class for the vehicle they are operating. Proof of valid driver's license shall be provided to the Fire Chief, or their designee.

B. To operate in an emergency mode, the operator will be 18 years of age or more to drive ambulances and 21 years of age or more to drive fire apparatus, have successfully completed the necessary training requirements, and have two years of verifiable driving experience.

##### C. Records Checks

1. All members are accountable for their driving records.

2. A Motor Vehicle Record Check is required of all members prior to operating any Department vehicle.

3. The Town of Ocean City Risk Management Department will conduct the check for employees of the Town.

4. The Deputy Chief of the Volunteer Division, or their designee, will conduct the check for members of the Volunteer Division.

#### 450.04 Driving Privilege

A. The privilege of operating an emergency vehicle may be suspended by any Chief Officer as a result of serious, documented violations of Maryland Vehicle Law. The suspension may remain in effect as long as the entry remains active on the driving record. Examples of serious violations include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
  2. Driving while refused, cancelled, suspended or revoked.
  3. Reckless driving.
  4. Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
  5. Failure to remain at the scene of an accident.
- B. Any Chief Officer may immediately suspend the privilege of any member to drive for any reason if he believes there is a safety risk to the public or property.

#### 450.05 Initial Training Requirements

- A Prior to operating any fire company vehicle in the emergency mode, the driver will successfully complete one of the following emergency vehicle driving courses or an equivalent course that will be evaluated by the Training, Health and Safety Section:
1. Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute Emergency Vehicle Driver In-service
  2. Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute Emergency Vehicle Operators Course
  3. Volunteer Fireman's Insurance Service Emergency Vehicle Operators Course
- B Engines
1. Completion of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute's Pump Operator Course, or equivalent.
  2. Successful completion of a driving performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  3. Successful completion of an over-the-road evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  4. Successful completion of a pumping performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
- C Aerial Apparatus
1. Completion of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute's Pump Operator Course, or equivalent.
  2. Completion of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute's Aerial Apparatus Operator course, or equivalent.
  3. Successful completion of a driving performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  4. Successful completion of an over-the-road evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  5. Successful completion of a pumping performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  6. Successful completion of the aerial operation evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
- D Rescue Apparatus
1. Successful completion of a driving performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  2. Successful completion of an over-the-road evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
  3. Successful completion of the rescue specific equipment operation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
- E Medic Units

1. Successful completion of a driving performance evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
2. Successful completion of an over-the-road evaluation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.
3. Successful completion of the medic unit specific equipment operation, as defined in the Driver/Operator Initial Evaluation Task Book.

#### 450.06 Annual Training Requirements/Competency Assessments

- A. Members shall be required to complete a number of competency assessments on an annual basis in order to ensure that they have maintained the skills necessary to safely and effectively operate emergency vehicles. Competencies have been developed for each class of vehicle and are identical to those performed during the initial training evaluation.
- B. All members operating Fire Department vehicles in the emergency mode shall successfully complete the Department's Safe Driving Practices course.
- C. All members operating Fire Department vehicles equipped with a fire pump shall successfully complete the Department's Hydraulics Review course.
- D. Engines
  1. Operate an engine, in emergency mode, on a minimum of 18 incidents. Individuals not driving on the minimum number of calls will be required to complete an over-the-road evaluation.
  2. Successful completion of all tasks identified in the Annual Evaluation – this includes pumping a single line, pumping two lines, functioning as a relay engine, obtaining and maintaining a drafting operation and supplying a fire department connection.
- E. Aerial Apparatus
  1. Operate a tower, in emergency mode, on a minimum of 12 incidents. Individuals not driving on the minimum number of calls will be required to complete an over-the-road evaluation.
  2. Successful completion of all tasks identified in the Annual Evaluation – this includes positioning the apparatus, stabilizing the apparatus, operating the aerial from both control stations and operating an elevated master stream.