

Clerk's Note: Previously repealed by Resolution No. 15-322, September 9, 2003.

Resolution No.: 17-936
Introduced: November 12, 2013
Adopted: November 12, 2013

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND**

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Repeal of Executive Regulation 73-91, Basic Life Support (BLS) Quality Assurance Program for EMT-As

Background

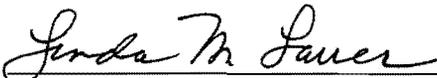
1. Executive Regulation 73-91 established minimum requirements for a BLS quality assurance program under an Emergency Medical Technician-A (EMT-A) certification level. Beginning in 1999, the State abolished this certification level and established an EMT-B certification level as the new minimum. Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service has a permanent Quality Assurance Program that monitors the performance and skills of all Emergency Medical Services Personnel. As a result, Executive Regulation 73-91 is obsolete.
2. On October 10, 2013, the County Council received the Executive's request to repeal Executive Regulation 73-91, Basic Life Support (BLS) Quality Assurance Program for EMT-As. The Fire and Emergency Services Commission also approved the repeal of this regulation.
3. Section 2A-15(f)(1) of the County Code provides that to repeal an adopted regulation, an issuer must use the procedure under which the regulation was adopted. Executive Regulation 73-91 was adopted under Method (2). Under Method (2), if the Council does not approve or disapprove a regulation within 60 days after the Council receives the regulation, it is automatically approved and takes effect the day after the deadline for approval or a later date specified in the regulation.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County Maryland approves the following resolution:

Executive Regulation 73-91, Basic Life Support (BLS) Quality Assurance Program for EMT-As, is repealed.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council



EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

**BASIC LIFE SUPPORT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM
FOR EMT-As**

Number
73-91

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

Effective Date
November 12, 2013

REPEAL OF EXECUTIVE REGULATION #73-91

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION REGULATION ON: *BASIC LIFE SUPPORT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOR EMT-As*

Issued by: Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

Executive Regulation 73-91

Authority: Montgomery County Code Section 21-4B(e)

Supersedes: No prior regulation

Council Review: Method (2) under Code Section 2A-15

Register Vol. 29, Issue 3

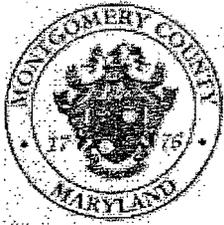
Effective Date: November 12, 2013

SUMMARY: Executive Regulation #73-91 is being repealed because in 1999, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems raised the minimum level of Service proficiency for Emergency Medical Technicians from "A" (for Ambulance) level, to EMT-"B" (for Basic) level, and required all Maryland EMS Providers to attain the higher standard of training and certification on a phased in basis. Since then, all Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service personnel met or exceeded the EMT-B certification requirement, making ER #73-91 obsolete. MCFRS has had in place a permanent Quality Assurance Program that includes a Medical Review Committee to monitor the performance and skills of all EMS service providers to ensure that they consistently deliver to the public the highest possible standard of care.

DEADLINES: Montgomery County *Register* Comment: March 31, 2012

ADDRESS: Beth Feldman, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, 12th Floor, Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

BACKGROUND: After reviewing existing programs, the Fire and Rescue Commission's EMS Committee proposed a BLS quality assurance program to address the response to and management of BLS care complaints, and the quality of care given to the public.



EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

**BASIC LIFE SUPPORT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM
FOR EMT-As**

Number
73-91

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

Effective Date

[Sec. 1. Purpose. The purpose of this regulation is to establish minimum standards for a Basic Life Support Quality Assurance Program. The Program is to be administered by the Corporations and the Department for their respective personnel, to monitor:

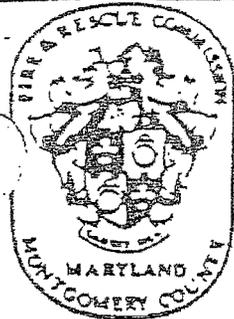
- (a) response to and management of BLS care complaints;
- (b) the quality of incident reports;
- (c) the quality of BLS skills provided by EMT-As; and
- (d) the quality of care given to the public by EMT-As.

Sec. 2. Applicability.

This regulation applies to all on-duty fire, rescue, and emergency medical service personnel, both career and volunteer, whose highest level of EMS certification is EMT-A.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

- (a) ALS. Advanced Life Support.
- (b) BLS. Basic Life Support.
- (c) Corporation. A fire or rescue Corporation established in the County, authorized to provide fire, rescue, or emergency medical services.
- (d) Department. The Department of Fire and Rescue Services.
- (e) EMT-A. An individual certified by the State of Maryland as a provider of service at the Emergency Medical Technician-Ambulance level.
- (f) On-Duty. Any time that fire, rescue, or emergency medical services personnel are acting in an official capacity or are on the scene of an emergency incident.
- (g) Personnel. All providers of fire, rescue, and emergency medical services, including career and volunteer personnel.



EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

No. 73-91

Effective Date:

4/9/92

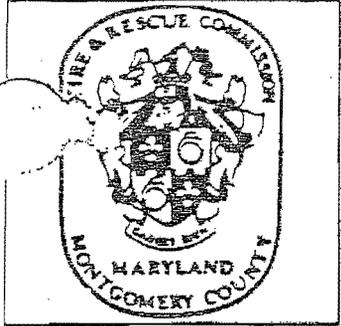
TITLE: BASIC LIFE SUPPORT
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOR EMT-As

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Sec. 4. Policy Statement. The Fire and Rescue Commission requires that each Corporation and the Department conduct a basic life support quality assurance program that meets or exceeds the minimum requirements established in this regulation. The Corporations and the Department may implement more stringent quality assurance programs and measures than are required by this regulation.

Sec. 5. Procedure.

- (a) Committee Establishment. The Corporations and the Department must establish a quality assurance committee for their respective personnel. The quality assurance committees may assume direct responsibility for all the areas below, or they may delegate all or some of them to existing or newly-created committees or administrative offices. The quality assurance committees will:
- (1) investigate BLS care complaints;
 - (2) evaluate field performance; and
 - (3) review incident reports.
- (b) Committee Membership. The Chief of each Corporation and the Director of the Department must appoint at least three members to their respective quality assurance committees.
- (1) Each member must have current active status.
 - (2) A physician resource may be appointed and called upon when needed.
- (c) Basic Life Support Care Complaints. The procedures below must be followed to ensure that a care complaint on a BLS incident is handled in a timely, thorough, and confidential manner.
- (1) The complaint must be forwarded to the Corporation's or Department's quality assurance committee within one week of its receipt.



<h1>EXECUTIVE REGULATION</h1> <p>Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission</p>	No.: 73-91
	Effective Date: 4/9/92
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- (2) When its investigation is completed, the quality assurance committee must forward its written findings to the Corporation Chief or Department Director, as appropriate.
- (3) The Chief or Director, or his/her designee, will determine and administer the appropriate corrective action, if one is needed.
- (4) Records of the complaint, the investigation, findings and outcome must remain on file for at least three years.
- (5) The complaint, investigation, and findings must be treated as a confidential matter by the Chief or Director, the quality assurance committee and, if applicable, the investigating sub-committee or administrative office.

(d) Evaluation of Incident Reports. The Corporations and the Department must ensure that reporting for each BLS incident is complete, accurate, legible and detailed.

- (1) Each BLS quality assurance committee, or its designee, must review a representative sample of reports authored by EMT-As. A minimum of ten percent of each station's BLS calls must be reviewed each month.
- (2) The BLS quality assurance committee, or its designee, must make a separate evaluation of each EMS-100 report reviewed under the above provision.

(e) Skills Proficiency. Each Corporation and the Department must ensure that all of their EMT-As maintain a level of skills proficiency consistent with current accepted standards.

Sec. 6. Responsibility.

- (a) Personnel. All personnel must comply with this regulation.
- (b) Department Heads. For volunteer personnel, the highest elected official of each Corporation is responsible for enforcing this regulation. For career personnel the Director of the Department is responsible for enforcing this regulation.
- (c) Annual Reporting. Annually, the chief of each Corporation and the Director of the Department must provide a memo to the Commission certifying that a quality assurance program is in place for their respective personnel.



EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

**BASIC LIFE SUPPORT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM
FOR EMT-As**

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73-91

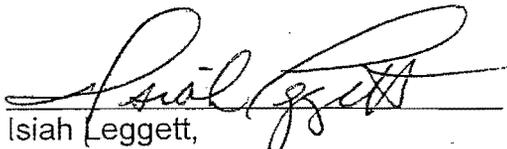
MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

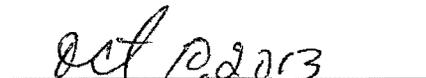
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Sec. 7. Exceptions. At the discretion of the Fire and Rescue Commission, exceptions to this standard may be made under special circumstances. Requests for these exceptions must include documentation justifying the exception, with supporting memoranda from the Chief of the Corporation or Director of the Department.

Sec. 8. Severability. If a court of final appeal holds that any part of this regulation is invalid, that ruling does not affect other parts of the regulation.

Sec. 9. Effective Date. This regulation is effective thirty days after Council adoption, or ninety days after Council receipt if the Council takes no action within sixty days of its receipt.]


Isiah Leggett,
County Executive


Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY
BY Richard H. Melnick
DATE 10/8/13