



MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Offices of the County Executive • 101 Monroe Street • Rockville, Maryland 20850

Subject REPEAL OF EXECUTIVE REGULATION #9-90 PAGER CRITERIA POLICY	Number 5-21
Originating Department MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE	Effective Date

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION REGULATION ON:

REPEAL OF EXECUTIVE REGULATION #9-90, PAGER CRITERIA POLICY

Issued by: Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission

Regulation No. 9-90

Authority: Code Section 21-4B(e) (3)

Supersedes: No previous policy

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

Register Vol. 38, No. 3

Effective Date:

Comment Deadline: March 31, 2021

SUMMARY: Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission Executive Regulation No. 9-90 is being repealed and the updated content and procedures are included in the Radio Procurement and Management Procedure Policy No. 22-04AM.

ADDRESS: Reginald Mention, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, Office of the Fire Chief, 100 Edison Park Drive, 2nd Floor, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

BACKGROUND: Electronic paging devices are an essential part of the emergency communications and notification system used to alert volunteer and career fire, and rescue, and emergency medical service personnel to respond to the emergency incidents. Certain administrative and other fire and rescue Corporation, Department, or Specialty Team personnel may also need to be alerted to report for service, or notified of other events. This proposed regulation establishes a policy to provide fair and equitable distribution of these paging devices to appropriate personnel. It also provides guidelines for the acquisition and maintenance of these devices.



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[Sec. 1. Purpose.

This regulation establishes fair and consistent criteria for acquiring pagers and appropriate procedures for their assignment, maintenance, repair, and replacement.

Sec. 2. Applicability.

This regulation applies to all fire and rescue Corporations, the Department of Fire and Rescue Services, and to Specialty Teams.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

- (a) Administrative Personnel. Non-operational personnel who have a specific function in managing a Corporation or provide an essential service to the Department or a Specialty Team, which requires that they be notified of events. These individuals may include Corporation officers, board members, administrative personnel, key members of a ladies' auxiliary, mechanics, or other support personnel to the Corporation or Department such as clergy or physicians. They must be certified by their Corporation Chief, the Department Director, or their Specialty Team leader as being essential personnel requiring pager assignment.
- (b) Communications Division. A division of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services whose responsibilities include the dispatch of emergency service personnel and apparatus.
- (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) Operations Personnel. Individuals who actively provide fire suppression or emergency medical services with a Corporation, the Department, or a Specialty Team. These personnel are certified by the Corporation Fire Chief, the Department Director, or the Specialty Team leader.



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- (f) Pager. An analog or digital electronic signaling device and related equipment, including charger, external antenna, etc., used to alert or notify Corporation, Department, or Specialty Team personnel of an incident or event.
- (g) Specialty Team. Any group of qualified individuals approved by the Fire and Rescue Commission to provide specialized assistance to fire and rescue departments and the County on incidents at which such expertise and equipment is not normally capability of responding units.

Sec. 4. Policy.

- (a) It is the policy of the Fire and Rescue Commission to issue pagers, within budgetary constraints, to certified administrative and operational personnel to ensure that essential personnel are notified of incidents or events. This policy does not prohibit Corporations from purchasing additional pagers using Corporation funds.

Sec. 5. Procedure.

- (a) Pager Listing. Each Corporation, the Department, and all Specialty Teams must maintain a current list of all pagers issued in their respective inventories. During January of each year, and whenever requested by the Commission, each Corporation, the Department, and the Specialty Teams must furnish a current list to the Commission of pagers and personnel to whom pagers are issued.
- (b) Requests for Pagers. Requests for pagers and other items relating to pagers should be made during the Capital Improvements Program request process, through the Communications Division, which will review the requests and make recommendations to the Commission for approval.
- (c) Distribution of Pagers. Each Corporation, the Department, and the Specialty Teams will receive pagers based upon requests submitted to the Communications Division and approved by the Fire and Rescue Commission.



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- (d) Replacement of Pagers. Pager life and replacement cycle will be tracked by the Communications Division, and appropriate adjustments made to the Capital Improvements Program budget requests as necessary. Depending upon the pager type, the life span will be set by the Department of Information Systems and Telecommunications (DIST).
- (e) Repairs. Damaged or defective pagers must be returned to the appropriate repair facility by the user Corporation, the Department, or the Specialty Team.
- (f) Lost or Stolen Pagers. If a pager is lost or stolen, the user must complete a loss or theft report, along with a police report, if appropriate. The user Corporation, the Department, or the Specialty Team must also submit any necessary claims to the insurance carrier to replace a lost or stolen pager.
- (g) Spare Pagers. Each Corporation, the Department, and the Specialty Teams will receive an allotment of spare pagers equal to ten percent of their total requirement to be used as maintenance spares and for assignment to new personnel.
- (h) Additional Pagers. If additional pagers or other items related to pagers are needed during the fiscal year, the Corporation, the Department, or the Specialty Team must provide sufficient justification to the Commission. The Communications Division will maintain a pool of spare pagers for temporary or emergency issuance.

Sec. 6. Responsibility.

- (a) The Communications Division is responsible for:
 - (1) reviewing pager requests and making budget recommendations to the Fire and Rescue Commission;
 - (2) tracking pager age and replacement programming;
 - (3) maintaining a pool of operating pagers for temporary issuance; and
 - (4) issuing additional and replacement pagers based on Corporation, Department, or Specialty Team alerting requirements.



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(b) Each Corporation, the Department, and each Specialty Team is responsible for:

(1) maintaining and furnishing to the Fire and Rescue Commission a current listing of all pagers and individuals to whom pagers are issued, including the information listed below.

(A) For pagers:

- (i.) serial number;
- (ii.) whether original or replacement; and
- (iii.) to whom assigned.

(B) For users:

- (i.) name;
- (ii.) social security number;
- (iii.) rank or title;
- (iv.) whether administrative or operational; and
- (v.) current status (activity level).

(2) ensuring the proper allocation and distribution of pagers and related equipment;

(3) determining the need for additional pagers and specific alerting requirements;

(4) monitoring the repair of damaged or defective pagers;

(5) monitoring the status and activity of personnel assigned pagers to determine their continued eligibility; and

(6) appointing a pager coordinator to ensure compliance with this policy, under the general supervision of the Corporation Chief, the Department Director, or the Specialty Team leader.



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(c) Corporation members, Department employees, and Specialty Team members are responsible for:

- (1) proper use and care of issued pagers;
- (2) reporting the loss, damage, or theft of pagers; and
- (3) returning the pagers and related equipment at the request of the Corporation, Department, or Specialty Team.

(d) The Department of Information Systems and Telecommunications is responsible for:

- (1) setting the pager life span;
- (2) resolving repair problems; and
- (3) procuring new and replacement communications equipment.

Sec. 7. Severability.

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

Sec. 8 Effective Date.

This regulation is effective 30 days after Council adoption or 90 days after Council receipt if the Council takes no action within 60 days of its receipt.]



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Attest:

County Executive Marc Elrich

Date

Approved as to form and legality
Montgomery County, MD. County Attorney's Office



Edward E. Haenftling, Jr.
Associate County Attorney

February 12, 2021

Date