

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

Rescinded 10/09/13 **NUMBER: 06-09**

October 13, 2006

TO: All MCFRS Career Personnel
FROM: Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr. 
SUBJECT: Implementation of EMS Flex Units

Effective 0800 hours on October 15th, 2006, MCFRS will place flex units in service.

The first flex units will be A86 and A257 operate between 0800 – 2000 hours each day.

As the fleet of EMS units is expanded, additional funding is received or a redistribution of career resources occurs, additional flex units are scheduled to be placed in service at FS19 and FS23.

The mission of the flex units is to provide additional transport capability during our peak call times and focused in the busiest geographical regions of the county. Providing additional transport capacity, will allow the ALS units to be more effectively utilized for ALS calls. It is intended that the flex units will operate out of the general geographical regions assigned, which are Gaithersburg/Germantown, Aspen Hill, Silver Spring, and Rockville. Since these areas experience the highest peak call volumes, the flex units should not be moved to provide routine coverage to areas that experience less call volume. However, these flex units maybe relocated by ECC personnel to accommodate immediate operational needs.

Initial staffing for the flex units will be done with overtime. This practice will be evaluated and changed if required. Available up-staffing will be provided to other operational priorities. With 24 hours notice to the DOC/VDOC volunteer staffing may be utilized if normal LFRD positions are filled.

Firefighter/Paramedics and Master Firefighter/Paramedics are eligible to be hired to staff the flex units. Personnel should post their availability to work overtime through Telestaff utilizing the normal procedure. Personnel will be specifically hired to staff the flex units. Once assigned by Telestaff personal should not be reassigned by the Station Officer.

Due to the station capacity at both FS8 and FS25, it is most likely that the flex units will be stored at FS28 and FS21 respectively.

The procedure to place the flex units in operation each day is as follows:

1. Personnel identified by Telestaff to staff A86 and A257 will report by 0800 hours to FS28 or FS21. They should advise the station officer they are on duty and the station officer should document this in the station log book, recording the names of assigned personnel.
2. Personnel should place the unit in a controlled status with ECC by 0800.
3. Personnel should complete the vehicle and inventory checkout.
4. Personnel should then move to FS8 or FS25, the operating stations. Upon arrival they will report to the station officer who will document the unit's status in the station log book.
5. Calls run by the A86 and A257 will be recorded in the Station 8 and Station 25 log books.
6. Personnel will return the flex units to FS28 or FS21 by 2000 hours. They should place the unit in an uncontrolled status with ECC at 2000 hours. If the flex unit is on a call at 2000 hours, the unit will be placed into an uncontrolled status upon completion of the last call. If the unit is not committed to an incident at 1930 it should proceed to the housing station.
7. Restocking of supplies throughout the shift should take place in same fashion as any other unit.
8. Reports are to be completed prior to going off duty.
9. The unit must be clean, stocked, fueled, and otherwise left ready for service upon completion of the shift. Personnel should follow the local policy for reporting vehicle defects and scheduling preventive or corrective maintenance.
10. Supervision and responsibility of the flex unit and personnel is assigned to the station officer at the operating station.

Issued:	Revised:	Rescinded:
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