

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Fire Chief's General Order

NUMBER: 15-01
January 21, 2015

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Acting Fire Chief Scott E. Goldstein



SUBJECT: EMS Unit / Cot Safety Restraints

When EMS Units are received, they come equipped with a cot meeting Federal, State, and NFPA standards and requirements. This includes three safety straps with an integrated shoulder harness. This integrated patient restraint system must be used consistent with the manufacturer's instructions. Removing, modifying, or replacing all or part of these restraints with unapproved straps is strictly prohibited.

Missing or damaged cot restraints must be documented by an apparatus defect report and immediate steps must be taken to have the part replaced by the Apparatus Section.

If there is any failure of the cot or restraint system while transporting a patient:

- The entire cot must immediately be placed out of service and impounded at the Fleet Section.
- Arrangements must be made to obtain a replacement via the DOC and Apparatus Section (or LFRD if LFRD owned).
- An apparatus defect report must be completed.
- If the incident resulted in an injury (either civilian or Fire/Rescue) a Risk MAP report must also be completed
- The EMS Duty Officer must be notified.

The failure of any patient carrying device warrants a report to the Food and Drug Administration (MedWatch). This will be coordinated by Fleet, EMS and Safety.

Please contact the EMS Assistant Chief if you have any questions.