

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER: 25- 09

December 31, 2025

Page 1 of 1

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Fire Chief Corey Smedley *Corey Smedley*

SUBJECT: Routine Incident Responses

This FCGO replaces and rescinds FCGO 19-10, Routine BLS Responses and Transports, and FCGO 21-01, Fire Routine Incident Responses

The indiscriminate use of emergency lights and sirens for the response to non-emergency incidents increases the risk of injury to both the public and MCFRS personnel. To mitigate this risk, certain incident types are dispatched as routine responses.

The following verbiage is used during the dispatch of a routine response incident:

- "Routine Response"
- "Proceed" replaces "Respond" in the dispatch cadence

Medical Example: 1200 Atlantic Ave, Cross Street Saint James Place, Diabetic, ALS1 Routine Response. Medic 799 Paramedic Engine 799 proceed on 7A1. Box area 99-31.

Fire Example: 1200 Atlantic Ave, Cross Street Saint James Place, Automatic Home Fire Alarm, Routine Response. Paramedic Engine 799 proceed on 7A1. Box area 99-31.

All units dispatched to routine response incidents shall drive to the scene without the use of emergency lights and sirens in a safe, but prompt manner, following all applicable Maryland motor vehicle laws and MCFRS policies, guidance, and direction. Should ECC receive additional information after dispatch, the incident type and response mode may be changed. Once units have arrived, emergency lights may be activated to ensure scene safety or to provide scene lighting.

A complete list of all incidents and the associated response plans is maintained and posted by the Communications Section.