



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

DIRECTIVE

NUMBER: 04-01

January 12, 2004

TO: All Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Personnel

FROM: Chief Tom Carr
DFRS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tom Carr", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Fred Welsh
DVFRS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Fredrick H. Welsh", written over a horizontal line.

SUBJECT: Hose Clamp Use

Over the years Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service has experienced injuries to fire/rescue personnel when applying or releasing hose clamps from pressurized hose lines. This is an extremely dangerous practice and is not the intended use of these hose clamps.

All MCFRS personnel will **immediately discontinue** the use of hose clamps for Large Diameter Hose and 3 inch supply lines. As an alternative, personnel are now required to use the pump valve handles to open and close pressurized hose lines at incidents when pressurized lines are being utilized. Communications between the drivers of supply and attack pumpers to open (charge) or close (shut down) the supply line(s) is critical and **MUST BE** acknowledged by the driver operators of the pumpers.

Hose clamps will continue to be carried on apparatus for use in emergency situations when lines must be shut-down.