



Did YOU know?

Driving: What's the Big Deal?

Poor driving habits, lack of skill, improper attitude, and lack of accountability for one employee driving an emergency vehicle can alter many lives—uniformed and civilian.

What other piece of equipment or tool carries nearly unlimited liability and may even subject an employee to criminal prosecution if they behave negligently?

CODE OF MARYLAND STATES:

THIS SECTION DOES NOT RELIEVE THE DRIVER OF AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE FROM THE DUTY TO DRIVE WITH *DUE REGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PERSONS*.

What emergency operation occurs more often than driving? If you have no emergency responses during a shift, chances are good that apparatus still leaves the station.

What piece of equipment costs more to replace or repair than a vehicle? A vehicle is often the most valuable tool placed under the care and control of an employee. Beyond the money, there is a domino effect that extends far past your station when apparatus goes out of service or a driver is NATD.

How often is emergency vehicle operation a topic of discussion around your kitchen table or at the white board? Does the discussion involve response routes and positioning considerations, or just tactical assignments based upon arrival order? Some may believe apparatus operations are solely the driver's responsibility, but in reality they require a *team effort* to be most effective.