

Augusta County Emergency Services Officers Association

*Augusta County Government Center
P.O. Box 590 – 18 Government Center Lane
Verona, Virginia 24482*



Fire-EMS Standard Operating Guideline

Section:	6 First Response Program
Title:	First Response Program
Date:	August 2008

FIRST RESPONSE PROGRAM

Program Purpose

The objective of the First Response program is to deliver immediate and appropriate emergency medical care to those persons suffering from sudden, life-threatening illness or injury.

Role of the First Response

The role of the First Response is to assess and stabilize the patient's condition by providing appropriate emergency medical treatment to those persons who have life-threatening medical problems or injuries, prior to the arrival of a rescue squad.

Medical Training

All persons rendering emergency first aid and care must be certified in CPR (health care provider level) and have current certification as a First Responder or higher level.

Licensing as an EMS Agency

Fire Departments must be licensed as an EMS Agency and operate within the Procedures and Guidelines set forth by the State Department of Health.

Types of Calls Appropriate for First Response

Calls will be dispatched according to the Advanced Medical Priority Dispatch System.

General Guidelines

1. First Response shall treat the patient where found, unless a dangerous situation warrants the patient being moved.
2. When the rescue squad arrives on the scene, First Response will turn over all patient care (after reviewing the patient assessment and care performed so far) to the rescue squad members, unless they are asked by the squad personnel to continue helping with patient care or incident stabilization.
3. First Response personnel, if at all possible, should relay pertinent patient information to the responding squad in a brief form. A brief written action record shall be made by the First Response personnel, with a copy to be given to the arriving rescue squad.

Fire Departments licensed as EMS Agency

Co. 2 – Deerfield	Co. 3 - Middlebrook
Co. 4 – Churchville	Co. 5 - Weyers Cave
Co. 6 – Verona	Co. 7 - Stuarts Draft
Co. 9 – Dooms	Co. 10 - Augusta County
Co. 11 - Preston L. Yancey	Co. 15 - Bridgewater
RCo. 17 - Raphine	Co. 17 - Clover Hill
Co. 18 - New Hope	Co. 20 – Grottoes
Co. 21 - Mt. Solon	Co. 22 – Shenandoah Valley Reg. Airport
Co. 23 - Walkers Creek	Wintergreen Fire

The above Fire Departments have been licensed as EMS agencies and shall respond to EMS emergencies as listed in Section 3.

Fire Departments who are not licensed as EMS agencies shall respond to vehicle accidents to assist with hazards.

In the event the first due rescue squad has a serious delay in responding to an area of an unlicensed fire department, the next due licensed fire department shall be dispatched for rescue assistance.

In no event shall the amount of equipment or personnel sent to a First Response call exceed the number absolutely necessary to answer that call.

Firefighters entering an incident as a First Response shall identify themselves as such and advise patient that the Rescue Squad is responding.