



# GENERAL ORDER

## GENERAL ORDER 300.01

### Chain of Command

#### OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

Issue Date: May 03, 1984

Revision Date: November 18, 2016

#### 1 APPLICABILITY

2 All career, volunteer, and contingent uniformed personnel.

#### 3 POLICY

4 To establish standardized Administrative Chain of Command for classified employees, and an  
5 integrated Operational Chain-of-Command for the combination fire and rescue system in  
6 Howard County, MD.

#### 7 DEFINITIONS

8 ➤ None

#### 9 PROCEDURES

##### 10 ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIN OF COMMAND (SUPERVISION / DAILY WORKFLOW):

11 The daily operational chain of command for County classified uniformed employees shall be:

- 12 • Fire Chief
- 13 • Career Deputy Chief
- 14 • Career Assistant Chief
- 15 • Career Battalion Chief
- 16 • Career Fire Captain
- 17 • Career Fire Lieutenant
- 18 • Career Master Firefighter - Career Firefighter – Career Firefighter Recruit – Career  
19 Firefighter Trainee

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21 \*The Administrative Chain of Command is not meant to contradict with or disallow the  
22 assignment of any specific employee to a specific supervisor.

##### 24 OPERATIONAL CHAIN OF COMMAND (EMERGENCY INCIDENTS / OPERATIONAL SITUATIONS):

25 The integrated operational incident chain of command for employees and volunteer emergency  
26 providers shall be:

- 27 • Fire Chief
- 28 • Career Deputy Chief



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- 29 • Career Assistant Chief
- 30 • Volunteer Fire Chief
- 31 • Career Battalion Chief
- 32 • Volunteer Deputy Chief - Volunteer Assistant Chief
- 33 • Career Fire Captain
- 34 • Volunteer Fire Captain
- 35 • Career Fire Lieutenant
- 36 • Volunteer Fire Lieutenant
- 37 • Career Master Firefighter
- 38 • Career/Volunteer Firefighter
- 39 • Firefighter Recruit
- 40 • Volunteer EMS Officer\* - Volunteer EMS-only Provider

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42 \*If also a Volunteer Firefighter, would have Volunteer Firefighter line authority.

## REFERENCES

- 44 • GO 120.02: Volunteer Officer Requirements
- 45 • GO 100.04: Position Requirements – Licenses, Certifications, Experience, and Education
- 46 • Prerequisites

## SUMMARY OF DOCUMENT CHANGES

- 48 • Aligned Volunteer Sergeant with Firefighter level line authority.
- 49 • Added Volunteer EMS Officer to the Operational Chain of Command
- 50 • Added the Volunteer EMS-only Provider to the Operational Chain of Command.
- 51 • Added qualifier regarding the administrative assignment of specific employees to
- 52 • specific supervisors.

## FORMS/ATTACHMENTS

- 54 • None

## APPROVED

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60 John S. Butler, Fire Chief  
61 Office of the Fire Chief  
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