



DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

	<h1>SPECIAL ORDER</h1>	
<h2>2010.033</h2>		

Originating From	Issue Date	Expiration Date	Attachments
Operations Cmd	06/07/10	n/a	n/a

SUBJECT: Emergency Services EMS Deployment
APPLICABILITY: All Operational Personnel

EFFECTIVE DATE: Friday, June 11, 2010 at 0700h

It is the goal of HCDFRS to provide equitable care to all residents, workers, and visitors of Howard County, as well as present the opportunity for skills enhancement to all providers while ensuring the increased availability of ALS providers. With the concurrence of the Medical Director, this policy addresses the daily deployment of Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers throughout the county.

1. The daily ALS staffing minimum is twelve (12) paramedics (EMT-Ps). This minimum is defined as a “must have” minimum, comprised of two (2) Medical Duty Officers (MDOs) and ten (10) EMT-Ps below the rank of Lieutenant/P. All stations, with the exception of Station 4, shall be staffed with at least one (1) EMT-P below the rank of Lt/P per station per day. All other ALS providers remain where they are assigned for that given shift.
2. The daily ALS staffing goal is eighteen (18) EMT-Ps. This goal is defined as meaning, battalion chiefs (BCs) will not hire back if overtime (OT) is not needed to reach the overall minimum daily staffing requirement. However, if the need exists to reach the overall minimum daily staffing requirement, then BCs will hire back to attain additional ALS providers.
3. The field BCs, in conference with the MDOs, shall determine the daily assignment of ALS personnel for their respective shifts. They are authorized to place three (3) stations in a primary BLS transport mode with the ALS provider responding on suppression apparatus to upgrade as necessary. The goal of this provision is to strive for at least 30% suppression time per month for ALS providers.
4. When a situation occurs where the suppression apparatus is out of the first due area for an extended or unknown period of time (i.e.- transfers, details) the paramedic should be placed on the transport unit for that time to provide ALS coverage.

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5. The MDOs shall track the rotation of ALS providers on transport units to ensure a reasonable rotation and minimize details.
6. At this time, Ambulance 96 is the only full-time dedicated BLS unit. All other transport units may respond ALS or BLS as staffing and requirements allow. The on-duty BCs shall strive to staff additional BLS units when overall staffing numbers are above the prescribed minimums.
7. Questions regarding the appropriate deployment of EMS personnel can be directed to the Executive Battalion Chief, Emergency Medical Services.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles M. Sharpe".

Charles M. Sharpe
Deputy Chief, Operations Command