



SENECA COUNTY

Emergency Medical Service



Seneca County Emergency Medical Services
Standard Administrative Guideline

Subject: EMS/First Responder Policy

Reference Number: 17

Effective Date: 1-08

Review Date: 1-10

Purpose:

To define the rules for dispatching of First Responder and EMS units

Background:

Due to the rural environment, Seneca County EMS relies on local Fire Department First Responders for the initial response and care of the sick and injured. The dispatch of local Fire Department first responders simultaneously with EMS dispatch is crucial to the quick arrival of medical aid to the patient.

Fire Department operations are inherently dangerous activities. Structure fires, field fires, vehicle fires, and alarm activations can lead very quickly to potentially hazardous situations for firefighters. Having EMS on hand immediately is important to support these activities and keep our personnel safe.

Policy & Procedure

Any time an EMS unit is dispatched in ANY district for ANY reason, the appropriate Fire Department First Responders will also be dispatched and any time a Fire Department is dispatched for ANY reason the appropriate EMS unit will also be dispatched.

- This policy is designed to clear any confusion as to who needs to be dispatched and when.
- The fire chief or his representative (authority having jurisdiction) will make a decision on what first responder units will respond.
- The Dispatcher will simultaneously dispatch both First Responders and EMS units if possible.
- The decision to commit first responder units will be with the Fire Chief or his representative.
- The decision to commit EMS units at fire scenes will be with the Incident commander or his representative.
- It is understood that not all fire districts have an EMS squad housed within their district. Therefore, the appropriate EMS squad will be dispatched simultaneously.

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