2-31   EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

2-31-1   Policy

Department policy is to assist citizens in need of emergency medical aid and/or emergency shelter.

2-31-2   Rules

A. Emergency Aid

In emergency medical situations, department personnel shall normally render only that degree of care necessary to sustain life, prevent or control shock, and prevent further harm based on each officer's training and abilities.

B. Serious Injury

In cases of serious injury, illness, or suspected death, personnel shall immediately request A.F.D. rescue. Transportation of victims will be provided by department personnel only in extreme emergencies. Personnel will have Communications make every attempt to contact next of kin to advise them of the nature of the injury/illness and the location of the victim.

C. Escorting Vehicles

1. Officers will not escort vehicles containing ill or injured passengers to medical facilities under code three conditions. Officers should request that rescue respond to the victim's location to provide medical assistance.

2. If the citizen declines rescue response, the officer should advise the citizen to proceed and obey all traffic laws.

[7]

D. Rescue Helicopter

1. Activation

Officers will contact Communications for activation procedures.

E. Contact with Communicable Diseases

1. It is possible that in the course of their duties, personnel will come into physical contact with individuals infected with communicable diseases.

2. Personnel contacting individuals suspected of being infected with any communicable disease should take the following precautions:
a. Wear surgical gloves if there is a possibility of contamination from body fluids, especially blood.
b. Wash hands as soon after contact as possible.
c. Clean and disinfect contaminated skin with hand sanitizer. Clean clothing with hot water (130 degrees F). Clean equipment with anti-bacterial cleaner or a 1-10 chlorine/bleach/water solution.

3. If there is a possibility that body fluids from an infected individual have penetrated the skin or mucus membranes of an employee, a supervisor should be notified at once to call Medcor and the APD Safety Officer. The individual shall contact Employee Health for follow-up treatment.

a. Include detailed information regarding the contact in the incident/accident report.
b. If the call would not normally require a report, write a special report documenting the incident.
c. Supervisors shall complete a "Supervisor’s Injury Report" and forward it to the Claims Validation Unit through the chain of command.