

# Interagency Coordination

## Interagency Cooperation

Supersedes:

Effective: 01-16-06

### 1. First Responders

- 1.1. Designated First Responders such as the Boston Fire Department or the Boston Police Department shall be requested by the Dispatch Operation as stated in the dispatch protocols.
- 1.2. When a Boston EMS unit arrives at a scene at which First Responders are present, the assumption of medical responsibility by EMS personnel shall occur as soon as possible. The transition shall be smooth and orderly and any pertinent information, if available, shall be obtained.
- 1.3. The Boston EMS crew shall be responsible for releasing First Responders from the scene as soon as there is no further need for assistance.

### 2. Conflict Between Agencies

Any dispute between EMS personnel and members of other public agencies concerning patient care, scene management, or general conduct shall be referred to the Field Supervisor immediately. The Field Supervisor shall obtain the relevant facts from the involved personnel of both agencies, attempt to resolve the dispute, and submit a written report to the Shift Commander before the end of the work shift.

### 3. Request For Additional EMS Assistance

A BLS unit on scene shall request the dispatch of an ALS unit whenever warranted by the status of the patient, (e.g., altered mental status, respiratory distress, hypotension, etc.) and the ETA of the ALS unit is shorter than the time it would take for the BLS unit to transport the patient to the nearest appropriate receiving facility;

An ALS unit on scene should request the dispatch of a BLS unit whenever a patient is deemed not to be in need of advanced life support, and the ETA of the BLS unit is shorter than the time it would take for the ALS unit to transport the patient to the nearest appropriate receiving facility;

### 4. An EMS unit shall notify Dispatch Operations if one of the following situations exists and the Shift Commander and appropriate Division Supervisor shall then be notified. This list is not meant to be all inclusive, but rather is a general guideline for incidents warranting supervisory notification.

- 4.1. a conflict with a member of the public or another public agency;
- 4.2. a homicide, suicide, hostage situation, or other suspicious or unusual incident;
- 4.3. a question of child abuse or elderly abuse;

- 4.4. a disagreement over patient care or transportation;
- 4.5. the threat of harm to an EMT on scene; a violent patient or patient requiring restraint
- 4.6. an incident requiring a prolonged time on scene (e.g., entrapment, fire, awaiting a police escort, etc.)
- 4.7. a question of an explosive or other incendiary device.
- 4.8. Department vehicle crash, equipment failure, or theft of department equipment
- 4.9. Any other significant or high profile incident where a Supervisor and/or Command Staff response may be warranted.