

Fauquier County Department of Fire Rescue

RULE & REGULATION

No. 103



Emergency Succession of Leadership

Effective Date: March 31, 2017

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Forms:

Approved By: Darren L. Stevens, Fire Rescue Chief

PURPOSE

To pre-determine and identify the legal line of authority and succession of leadership within the Fauquier County Department of Fire Rescue.

SCOPE

This regulation pertains to all Fauquier County Department of Fire Rescue members (career and administrative).

I. BACKGROUND

Strong continuity of operations in any organization depends on the existence of a clear line of succession for organizational leadership. While the Fauquier County Department of Fire Rescue utilizes a paramilitary rank structure, the uniformed rank in and of itself does not identify the specific individual upon which the position of leadership will fall when there are multiple individuals who hold the same rank.

II. EMERGENCY LINE OF SUCCESSION

A. In the event that a sudden and unanticipated vacancy or vacancies occur at the department head and/or command staff level, the following line of succession shall identify the order in which remaining members of the department will temporarily move up to assume the organizational leadership responsibilities:

1. Fire chief
2. Assistant fire chief
3. Deputy fire chief
4. Battalion chiefs in order of seniority at the rank of battalion chief
5. Captains in order of seniority at the rank of captain
6. Lieutenants in order of seniority at the rank of lieutenant
7. Master technicians by seniority in the department
8. Technicians by seniority in the department

B. In the event of two or more individuals at the same rank having the same seniority, the list shall default to alphabetical by last name then first name.

Desire to Serve

Ability to Perform

Courage to Act