

# Fauquier County Department of Fire Rescue

## **OPERATING PROCEDURE**

No. 306

### **Transportation of Deceased Persons**

Effective Date: February 2, 2018

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Revision Date:

Forms:

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## **PURPOSE**

To establish procedures that define expectations and process regarding the transportation of deceased persons.

## **SCOPE**

This procedure applies to all personnel within the Fauquier County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management and the Fauquier County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and its associated departments.

## **I. POLICY**

- A. The responsibility for the disposition and transportation of deceased persons resides with the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. There are situations that may involve Department staff and vehicles.

## **II. PROCEDURES**

- A. When it has been determined that a person is deceased in a residence that is the result of “natural causes”, and after verifying with law enforcement personnel that no further assistance is needed, the EMS crew may return to service and leave the scene. Typically, law enforcement personnel assist the family with making arrangements for private transportation.
- B. When it has been suspected that a person is deceased from the result of a crime, is a medical examiner case, or is the result of trauma, law enforcement primarily uses a private contract service for transportation. In the event of a need to preserve public decorum, fire rescue staff may, after consultation with law enforcement working the case, be asked to transport to a local hospital. In this situation, the use of BLS units is preferred. Units requested to transport deceased persons shall notify an on-duty battalion chief of the request and destination facility.
- C. Other exigent circumstances may exist where fire rescue staff is asked to assist law enforcement with transportation. In these cases, the same process outlined in II. B will apply.

**Desire to Serve**

**Ability to Perform**

**Courage to Act**