



LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
Ardmore, Pennsylvania

Policy 3.10.2

Subject:		Distribution:
Ambulance Services		All Sworn Personnel
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CALEA: N/A; PLEAC: N/A		
By Authority of:		
		Superintendent of Police

POLICY

It is the policy of the Township of Lower Merion to provide the most comprehensive and efficient emergency medical services available.

PROCEDURE

The authority and responsibilities of police personnel during joint operations with Lower Merion/Narberth Ambulance Corps, or any other responding medical assistance provider, are as follows:

A. POLICE OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES AT MEDICAL SCENE

1. On arrival at any medical assistance scene, determine the condition of the patient(s). Relay pertinent information to the responding ambulance so that they can respond appropriately.
2. Provide basic life-support techniques and treat any life-threatening injuries until being relieved by the ambulance crew.
3. Render assistance requested or required by the ambulance crew.
4. At no time shall a police officer interfere or obstruct ambulance personnel in the performance of his/her duties pertaining to the care of a patient.
5. A police officer observing what is perceived as a procedural violation on the part of any ambulance personnel shall immediately notify a supervisor and document all facts.
6. Notify a supervisor in all incidents where advanced life support or CPR techniques are applied.
7. Prepare a complete, accurate and thorough investigative report when warranted.

8. In those cases where safety dictates the immediate removal of a patient, the ambulance crew supervisor must be advised of the circumstances when:
 - a. Police are concerned with the public safety.
 - b. Ambulance personnel are concerned with welfare of the patient at hand.
 - c. The deciding factor shall be the immediate safety of all concerned.

B. POLICE SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. A police supervisor should respond to all medical assistance calls where the implementation of advanced life support and/or CPR techniques occurs or the medical assistance is the result of a criminal act.
2. Police supervisors will prepare a report in all cases of observed or reported procedural deficiencies involving police and/or ambulance personnel.
3. Police supervisors will document all failure(s) to respond or prolonged response time of an ambulance crew.
4. Police supervisors will forward all documentation involving police and ambulance joint operational deficiencies to the Operations Division Commander for disposition.
5. Upon notification of the implementation of advanced life support and/or CPR techniques, police supervisors shall ensure that a follow-up investigation is conducted at the hospital.
6. In reference to questionable deaths (such as suicides, gunshot wounds, etc.), allow access only to the ambulance personnel necessary to assess and confirm the death. This is to ensure crime scene integrity.
7. At crime scenes, instruct the ambulance crew in their responsibilities to:
 - a. Restrict the amount of personnel to those absolutely necessary to attend to injured parties.
 - b. Confine the disturbance of the crime scene to the immediate area of the injured party.

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all supervisory personnel to ensure that all personnel under their immediate supervision comply with this policy.