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**Riders in EMS Units** 

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**OBJECTIVE:** To provide for a "third-out" rider program on medic units of the Carrollton Fire Department and to provide guidelines on the responsibilities and behavior of the riders.

#### 409.01 THIRD-OUT RIDERS IN EMS UNITS

- 1.1 All third-out riders must sign a Third-Out Rider Release form prior to riding out. A new release form must signed each time on individual rides out.
- 1.2 Only authorized persons will be allowed to ride on a medic unit.
- 1.3 Third-out riders must follow all requirements and rules prior to and while riding.
- 1.4 Specific requirements and procedures for third-party ride-out personnel are contained in CFD Administrative Procedure 106. In general, no personnel under the age of 18 are allowed to ride unless they are a fire department dependent, or part of the CFD-sponsored Explorer post.
- 1.5 It is the responsibility of all paramedic personnel to assure that the rider has been approved to ride and a Third-Out Rider Release form has been signed. (i.e. ride-out schedule approved and displayed in each station).
- 1.6 It is the responsibility of all paramedic personnel to note the personal appearance of third-out riders when they report to ride. If they do not meet the rules and regulations pertaining to dress, they will be so advised by paramedic personnel and will not be permitted to ride until they have complied with the rules.
- 1.7 Third out riders are persons who fall into two groups observers and student interns.
  - a. Observers
    - 1. These are individuals who for some personal reason may desire the experience of pre-hospital care by observation. Frequently this is to gain a sense of EMS roles in the community and to understand the interaction of various agencies.
    - 2. Observers should not be involved in the patient care process, only allowed to observe paramedic personnel render care to the patient.
  - b. Student Interns

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- 1. Their role is to interact in the patient care process by performing duties as delegated by affiliate agreement with the training institution. The amount of involvement is to be determined by CFD paramedics.
- 2. Interns should perform the skills, as determined by the paramedics, which fall within the practice for the certification the student is obtaining.
- c. Interns are "in training" and therefore should never be left in the role of providing sole care for the patient.

### 409.02THIRD-OUT RIDERS RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 2.1 Third-out riders are to conduct themselves with proper decorum at all times. They are to refrain from:
  - a. Use of alcoholic beverages prior to and during shift.
  - b. Use of profane or abusive language.
  - c. Use of excessive conversation which may interfere with radio communications while riding in medic unit.
  - d. Making remarks, or voicing opinions to patients or family members, bystanders, police officers, fire personnel, or first responders in any manner which would tend to provoke or degrade anyone or escalate tension/anxiety.
  - e. Making known to any person not authorized any information concerning the emergency call, the patient, or incident outcome.
  - f. Using information gained through the third-out rider program for personal gain.
  - g. Wearing on their clothing any article, sign or symbol that advertises any product, business or organization.

2.2 EMS third-out riders are to meet the following criteria:

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- a. In quarters:
  - 1. Adhere to all policies and procedures pertaining to EMS personnel while in the station.
  - 2. Provide their own transportation to and from the station.
  - 3. Bring sufficient money to cover meal expenses as crew may eat out of the station.
  - 4. Will not bring any other person to the station during their ride out time.
- b. In the Medic Unit:
  - 1. Ride in a designated seat with seat belt attached at all times.
  - 2. Remain in or near the medic unit while on an emergency call.
  - 3. Not to remove any equipment from the unit unless expressly directed to do so by the crew.
  - 4. Are to observe only unless instructed by a crew member. Exceptions are students who have clearance to perform certain procedures as a part of their training program.
- 2.3 EMS third-out riders may not carry any weapon during their tour of ride out.
- 2.4 EMS third-out riders are to dress neatly and conservatively at all times.
  - a. Conservative type shoes, including black athletic type shoes, or boots may be worn. It is recommended that sturdy shoes be worn. Sandals or tennis shoes are prohibited.
  - b. Hair must be neatly groomed.
  - c. Blue jeans, shorts and t-shirts are prohibited.
  - d. Cleanliness and physical hygiene are required at all times.

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2.5 All third-out riders are subject to removal for any violation of the above rules and regulations. Additionally, due to operations or training requirements, they may be asked to leave at a moment's notice as directed by the student's evaluator.