

~~Brand New PGFEMS Ordinance #2~~

CHAPTER 42 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 42-1.1. - Establishment of the Prince George Coordinated Fire and Emergency Services System.

a) The Prince George County Coordinated Fire and Emergency Services System (~~Fire and Emergency Services System~~) ~~fire and rescue system~~ is hereby established pursuant to Code of Virginia, § 27-6.1 et seq. The ~~Fire and Emergency Services System~~ ~~fire and rescue system~~ shall provide comprehensive fire, rescue, emergency disaster management, hazard material ("hazmat") and emergency medical services throughout the county in accordance with state laws, county ordinances, and adopted policies.

(b) The ~~Fire and Emergency Services System~~ ~~coordinated and integrated fire and emergency medical service system~~ shall be composed of the following ~~paid and~~ volunteer fire companies, ~~volunteer rescue squad~~ and the Prince George County Department ~~of Fire and Emergency Services~~ (~~"Department of Fire and Emergency Services"~~) ~~of Fire and EMS~~, including volunteers of the department:

(1) Prince George ~~County Fire Station Volunteer Fire Department~~ ~~Volunteer Fire Department~~, Company 1.

(2) ~~Prince George County Disputanta Fire Station~~ ~~Disputanta Volunteer Fire Department~~, Company 2

(3) ~~Prince George County~~ Carson ~~Fire Station Volunteer~~ ~~Volunteer Fire Station~~ Department, Company 3.

(4) ~~Prince George County~~ Burrowsville ~~Fire Station~~ ~~Volunteer Fire Department~~, Company 4.

(5) ~~Prince George County~~ Jefferson Park ~~Fire Station Volunteer~~ ~~Volunteer and Career Fire Department~~ ~~Station Department~~, Company 5.

~~(6) Prince George Emergency Crew.~~

(6) ~~Prince George County South Crater Fire Station and Emergency Services~~, ~~Company 6~~

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(7) Prince George County Moody Road Fire Station and Emergency Services, Career and System Volunteer, Company 7

(8) Prince George County PG Drive Fire Station and Emergency Services, Career and System Volunteer, Company 8

(c) The ~~coordinated fire and EMS system~~ Fire and Emergency Services System shall be a combined force of non-employee volunteer members of the several fire companies ~~and rescue squad~~, county employees, and ~~rescue squad~~ county System volunteers of the Prince George County Department of ~~Fire and Rescue~~ Fire and Emergency Services.

(d) ~~Career staff and~~ Volunteers reporting to the ~~D~~department of ~~fire and EMS~~ Fire and Emergency Services shall be managed and supervised by the ~~county~~ county Fire and Emergency Services Chief ("Chief") ~~fire and Emergency Services EMS chief~~ and may, in the discretion of the Chief, be assigned to various duties including placement in stations and as personnel on apparatus.

(e) Additional volunteer fire companies may be formed in accordance with state law, the Cfire and EMS chief's recommendation, and with board of supervisors' approval. They shall operate in conformity with state laws, county ordinances, and the policies of the Fire and Emergency ServicesMS-System System.

Sec. 42-1.2. Responsibilities of the coordinated fire and rescue system.

The coordinated fire and emergency medical services system shall:

- (1) Manage the delivery of prehospital emergency patient care and services in the county consistent with state emergency medical services regulations and the guidance of the medical director.
- (2) Manage the provision of fire suppression, prevention education, investigation and rescue services, and services relating to hazardous materials and other hazards posing a threat to life and property.
- (3) Manage delivery of services for natural and manmade disasters or weather-related emergencies.
- (4) Provide any additional related services as determined by the board of supervisors.

Sec. 42-1.23. - Responsibilities of ~~fire and emergency medical services (EMS) chief~~ Fire and Emergency Services Chief.

- (1) The county administrator shall appoint the Chief. The Chief shall have all legal authority to exercise all powers authorized and as specified in both Code of Virginia, § 27-

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6.1, and for the County EMS Chief as specified in Code of Virginia, § 32.1-111.4:6. The Chief shall be the commanding officer for both the operational, administrative, and budgetary aspect of every part of the Fire and Emergency Services System as necessary for the provision of coordinated fire and emergency medical services. References to the Chief in this chapter shall include his or her designees.

- (2) The Chief shall lead the planning, training and preparation, and response to any disaster that occurs in the county and that requires implementation of the county's emergency response plan. The board of supervisors and the county administrator hereby designate the Chief, and the Chief shall so serve, as the coordinator of emergency services for all purposes related to response to disasters pursuant to Title 44 of the Virginia Code.
- (3) The Chief shall be authorized to oversee the emergency response operations relate to the provision of Fire and Emergency services in Prince George County in accordance with the policies established by the Chief to include but not limited to:
 - a. Set minimum standards and requirements for all Fire and Emergency Services System's personnel/members, training, licensure, staffing, reporting requirements, rank structure, system funding, performance, response districts, mutual aid agreements, system fleet size, deployment, and goals for the delivery of high-quality fire and emergency services;
- (4) The Chief shall make day-to-day operational decisions necessary for an effective coordinated system on matters not addressed by system-wide policies. The Chief shall strive to consult with the Prince George Fire and Emergency Medical Services (PGFEMS) Advisory Board ("PGFEMS Advisory Board") prior to making any significant decision. If circumstances do not permit such prior consultation with the PGFEMS Advisory Board, the Chief shall advise the PGFEMS Advisory Board as soon as practicable after the decision is made and may seek its recommendations for future actions.
- (5) The Chief shall serve as the chairman of the PGFEMS Advisory Board by participating in PGFEMS Advisory Board meetings and activities; providing and managing county staff support, as needed, for the PGFEMS Advisory Board; and overseeing the preparation of PGFEMS Advisory Board meeting documents. The Chief shall also be a full voting member of the PGFEMS Advisory Board.

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~~The head of the coordinated fire and EMS system shall be known as the fire and EMS chief, who shall be appointed by the county administrator. The fire and EMS chief shall:~~

- ~~(1) Provide oversight and management of the coordinated system's functions by:
 - a. Developing strategies in collaboration with the Prince George Fire and Emergency Medical Services (PGFEMS) Board, to retain and expand the volunteer base within the system to ensure that the health of the volunteer system remains a high priority for the fire and EMS chief.
 - b. Develop policies, in consultation with the PGFEMS Board, of system-wide policies that are essential to the effective and fair provision of high-quality, countywide fire and emergency services to include:
 1. Standard operating guidelines for the system's delivery of fire, rescue, and emergency medical services;
 2. System performance standards, such as minimum staffing and response goals;
 3. A seamless command structure and incident command system that complies with federal and state incident management standards;
 4. Minimum personnel, training, licensure, and reporting requirements and the delivery of high-quality fire and emergency services;
 5. System fleet size, deployment, and functions;
 6. Minimum standards regarding apparatus and equipment;
 7. System funding by the county, including volunteer companies and monitoring and controlling system volunteer and county budgets and expenditures;
 8. A process for setting and maintaining first due areas, response districts and apparatus response orders;
 9. Development of a plan for construction and maintenance of stations and substations within the county; and
 10. Mutual aid and cooperative agreements.~~

~~(2) Make day-to-day operational decisions necessary for an effective coordinated system on matters not addressed by system-wide policies. The fire and EMS chief shall strive to consult with the PGFEMS Board prior to making any significant decision. If circumstances do not permit such prior consultation with the PGFEMS Board, the fire and EMS chief shall advise the PGFEMS Board as soon as practicable after the decision is made and seek its recommendations for future actions.~~

~~(3) Serve as the chairman of the PGFEMS Board by participating in PGFEMS Board meetings and activities; providing and managing county staff support, as needed, for the PGFEMS Board; and overseeing the preparation of PGFEMS Board meeting documents. The fire and EMS chief shall also be a full-voting member of the PGFEMS Board.~~

~~(4) Provide general management, planning, preparation, response and recovery for any disaster relating to fires, hazardous materials, natural or manmade events, weather or emergency medical services that may occur in the county.~~

~~(5) Assume responsibility, under the authority of the county administrator, to carry out agreements for mutual aid, disaster preparedness and the provision of services related to hazardous materials, rescues, fire suppression, investigation, medical services or other emergency response services deemed necessary in the judgment of the fire and EMS chief for events exceeding the capabilities of the county.~~

~~(6) Exercise all powers authorized by state law as necessary for the provision of coordinated fire and emergency medical services.~~

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(1) ~~The county administrator shall appoint the county chief of the Prince George County Fire and Emergency Services ("Chief"). The Chief shall have all legal authority to exercise all powers authorized and as specified in Code of Virginia, § 27-6.1, and County EMS Chief as specified in Code of Virginia, § 32.1-111.4:6 and be the County Chief. The appointed chief shall be the commanding officer for both the operational, administrative, and budgetary aspect of every branch of the Prince George Fire and EMS System as necessary for the provision of coordinated fire and emergency medical services. References to the chief in this chapter shall include his or her designees.~~

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(3) ~~The chief shall lead the planning for, training and preparation for, and response to any disaster that occurs in the county and that requires implementation of the county's emergency response plan. The board of supervisors and the county administrator hereby designate the chief, and the chief shall so serve, as the coordinator of emergency services for all purposes related to response to disasters pursuant to Title 44 of the Virginia Code.~~

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(3) ~~The fire and EMS chief shall be authorized to oversee the emergency response operations relate to the provision of Fire and EMS services in Prince George County in accordance with the policies established by the fire and EMS Chief to include but not limited to:~~

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~~a. Set minimum standards and requirements for all branches for the Fire and EMS System's personnel, training, licensure, staffing, reporting requirements, rank structure, system funding, performance, response districts, mutual aid agreements, system fleet size, deployment, and goals for the delivery of high-quality fire and emergency services;~~

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(4) ~~The fire and EMS chief shall Make day-to-day operational decisions necessary for an effective coordinated system on matters not addressed by system-wide policies. The fire and EMS chief shall strive to consult with the PGFEMS Advisory Board prior to making any significant decision. If circumstances do not permit such prior consultation with the PGFEMS Advisory Board, the fire and EMS chief shall advise the PGFEMS Advisory Board as soon as practicable after the decision is made and may seek its recommendations for future actions.~~

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(5) ~~Serve as the chairman of the PGFEMS Advisory Board by participating in PGFEMS Advisory Board meetings and activities; providing and managing county staff support, as needed, for the PGFEMS Advisory Board; and overseeing the preparation of PGFEMS~~

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~~Advisory Board meeting documents. The fire and EMS chief shall also be a full voting member of the PGFEMS Advisory Board.~~

Sec. 42-1.34. - Responsibilities of volunteer fire companies, and volunteer station chiefs.

(1) Definitions:

a. "Volunteer" means a member of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services who serves without pay and whose name has been duly certified to the Circuit Court Clerk of Prince George County by the Fire-Chief and chief of such volunteer fire company as an active member thereof and as further defined in Virginia Code § 27-9.

b. "Active member" means a volunteer who is no less than 18 years of age, not on probation, and have met the training requirements for the Department of Prince George Fire and Emergency Services, provides an average of 24 hours of station duty service where they are able to respond to calls to the county a month in a calendar year and responds to no less than ten (10) percent of the calls for their assigned station. Only "active" members of the volunteer fire station departmentments, system and county department volunteers; defined as having responded as stated above, shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits, Code of Virginia, § 9.1-400 et seq.

c. "Non-active members" are defined as members that are listed by the department as exempt from providing station duty hours and do not respond to calls and shall not be issued turnout gear. Non-active members are those members that assist in fundraising, honorary, or life members that perform no operational duty functions.

(2) Volunteer fire companies and volunteer station chiefs shall operate in conformity with state laws, county ordinances, and the duly adopted policies and directives of the County, Chief, and the Fire and Emergency Services System. Every member of the volunteer fire company shall, upon any alarm of fire or call of a medical emergency, attend and endeavor to extinguish such fire or assist in the medical emergency as per Virginia Code § 27-11.

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(3) Volunteer fire companies shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. Subject to the policies and direction of the Chief, they shall also have the following responsibilities while acting in conformity with chains of command and policies of the Fire and Emergency Services:

a. Managing performance and responses by their company, including directing station activity and operations; selecting and promoting qualified volunteer officers and other volunteer personnel, recruiting, retaining and advocating on behalf of volunteer and career members, caring for and maintaining station facilities, apparatus and equipment; and

b. Preparing and submitting annual budgets request to the Chief subject to approval by the county and managing expenditures in conformance with the approved budget; and

c. Managing station procurement of supplies and coordinating station procurement in accordance with state law and the county procurement policy and care of county apparatus, equipment, and tools in accordance with the county and the Fire and Emergency Services System's policies; and

d. The chief of each volunteer fire station shall submit to the Chief a list of the active members on September 1 of each year. Information contained in this report shall consist of and all documentation illustrating number of duty hours per month for each member and number of calls answered per member. On the first of each month, the chief of each volunteer fire company shall submit to the Chief any additions or deletions to the active membership of that volunteer fire company. In addition, the chief at each station shall file a copy of their by-laws, any resolutions, minutes of their board of directors and association's annual report by September 1 of each year with the Chief; and

e. The operational head of each volunteer fire company within the system shall be selected according to the by-laws of the company. Volunteer station chiefs shall exercise the authority granted to them by state law and the by-laws of their organizations that have been approved by the Chief, so long as their actions do not conflict with the provisions of this article or the policies of the Fire and Emergency Services System; and

f. Collecting and forwarding to the Chief any requested data, statistics and other information as may be necessary to assure the efficient operation of the Fire and Emergency Services System.

(a) Volunteer fire companies and rescue squads shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. They shall also have the following responsibilities while acting in conformity with policies of the coordinated fire and rescue system:

- (1) Managing performance and responses by the company or squad, including directing station activity and operations;
 - (2) Assuming or delegating the role of incident commander within the system's integrated incident command structure;
 - (3) Providing management within response districts and apparatus response orders;
 - (4) Selecting and promoting officers and other personnel;
 - (5) Recruiting, retaining and advocating on behalf of volunteer members;
 - (6) Managing officers and personnel, including discipline, training, and keeping records; provided, however that the fire and EMS chief may take disciplinary action or other personnel action affecting volunteers in accordance with this article;
 - (7) Preparing annual budgets subject to approval by the county and managing expenditures in conformance with the approved budget;
 - (8) Fundraising and managing all funds and assets that derive from private or non-county sources;
 - (9) Collecting and forwarding to the fire and EMS chief any requested data, statistics and other information as may be necessary to assure the efficient operation of the coordinated fire and rescue system;
 - (10) Caring for and maintaining station facilities, apparatus and equipment; and
 - (11) Managing station procurement of supplies and coordinating station procurement and care of county apparatus, equipment, and tools.
- (b) The operational head of each volunteer fire company and rescue squad within the system shall be selected according to the by-laws of the company or squad. Volunteer chiefs shall exercise the authority granted to them by state law and the by-laws of their organizations, so long as their actions do not conflict with the provisions of this article or the policies of the coordinated fire and EMS system.
- (c) Volunteer companies and squad shall have authority to adopt policies, guidelines and protocols for the governance of their stations, which are consistent with state law, county ordinances, and policies of the coordinated fire and EMS system. Nothing in this article is intended, nor shall it be construed, to make any member of a volunteer fire company and rescue squad an employee of the county.
- (d) Additional volunteer fire companies and rescue squads may be formed in accordance with state law and board of supervisors' approval. They shall operate in conformity with state laws, county ordinances, and the policies of the coordinated fire and EMS system.

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(1) Definitions:

a. "Volunteer" means a member of the Fire and EMS Department who serves without pay and whose name has been duly certified to the Circuit Court Clerk of Prince George County by the chief of such volunteer fire company as an active member thereof and as further defined in Virginia Code § 27-9.

b. "Active member" means a volunteer who provides an average of 24 hours of station duty service where they are able to respond to calls to the county a month

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in a calendar year and responds to no less than ten (10) percent of the class for their assigned station. Only "active" members of the volunteer fire departments, system and county department volunteers; defined as having responded as stated above, shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits, Code of Virginia, § 9.1-400 et seq.

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~~(2) Volunteer fire companies and volunteer station chiefs shall operate in conformity with state laws, county ordinances, and the duly adopted policies and directives of the County, fire and EMS chief, and the Fire and EMS System. Every member of the volunteer fire company shall, upon any alarm of fire or call of a medical emergency, attend and endeavor to extinguish such fire or assist in the medical emergency as per Virginia Code § 27-11.~~

~~(3) Volunteer fire companies shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. They shall also have the following responsibilities while acting in conformity with chains of command and policies of the Fire and Emergency Service System:~~

~~a. Managing performance and responses by their company, including directing station activity and operations; Selecting and promoting qualified volunteer officers and other volunteer personnel; Recruiting, retaining and advocating on behalf of volunteer and career members; caring for and maintaining station facilities, apparatus and equipment;~~

~~b. Preparing and submitting annual budgets request to the fire and EMS chief subject to approval by the county and managing expenditures in conformance with the approved budget;~~

~~c. Managing station procurement of supplies and coordinating station procurement and care of county apparatus, equipment, and tools in accordance to county and the Prince George Fire and Emergency Services policy;~~

~~d. The chief of each volunteer fire station shall submit to the fire and emergency services chief a list of the active members on September 1 of each year. Information contained in this report shall consist of and all documentation illustrating number of duty hours per month for each member and number of calls answered per member. On the first of each month, the chief of each volunteer fire company shall submit to the fire and EMS chief any additions or deletions to the active~~

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~~membership of that volunteer fire company. In addition, the chief at each station and file a copy of their by-laws, any resolutions, minutes of their board of directors and associations annual report on September 1 of each year.~~

~~e. The operational head of each volunteer fire company within the system shall be selected according to the by-laws of the company. Volunteer station chiefs shall exercise the authority granted to them by state law and the by-laws of their organizations that have been approved by the Prince George County fire and Emergency Services chief, so long as their actions do not conflict with the provisions of this article or the policies of the Fire and EMS System.~~

~~f. Collecting and forwarding to the fire and EMS chief any requested data, statistics and other information as may be necessary to assure the efficient operation of the Fire and Emergency Services System.~~

Sec. 42-1.45. - Establishment of Prince George Fire and ~~EMS~~ ~~Emergency Services~~ ~~MS~~ Advisory (PGFEMS) Board. ———

~~(a) The Prince George County Fire and Emergency Services advisory board ("PGFEMS Advisory Board") is hereby established and this board shall include the highest-ranking operational leaders of each of the volunteer organizations listed under the composition of the Fire and Emergency Services System and the Chief, who shall serve as the chair of the board.~~

~~(a) The Prince George County Fire and EMS Board ("PGFEMS Board") is hereby established to perform the following responsibilities:~~

- ~~(1) Cooperate with and advise the fire and EMS chief on the delivery of fire, rescue and emergency medical services as representatives of the volunteer companies and squad;~~
~~(2) Facilitate communication and collaboration between the volunteer and county-employed members of the coordinated fire and rescue system;~~
~~(3) Communicate issues of importance to the fire and EMS chief concerning individual volunteer organizations or the coordinated fire and emergency medical service system.~~

~~(b) The PGFEMS Board shall be composed of the highest ranking operational leader of each of the volunteer organizations and the county fire and EMS chief, who shall also serve as the chairman of the board.~~

~~(a) The Prince George County Fire and Emergency Services advisory board is hereby established and this board shall include the highest-ranking operational leaders of each of the volunteer organizations listed under the composition of the fire and emergency services system and the Prince George County Fire and Emergency Services Chief, who shall serve as the chair of the board.~~

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Sec. 42-1.6 Duties of the Prince George Fire and EMS (PGFEMS) Board

The PGFEMS Board shall perform the following duties:

- (1) Adopt by-laws for its operation consistent with this article.
- (2) Review all proposed policies affecting the coordinated fire and EMS system and provide comments and advice to the fire and EMS chief and ensure the communication and compliance with system-level policies to all companies and squads.
- (3) Meet regularly in order to consider concerns affecting the coordinated system and provide input regarding:
 - a. Incident management;
 - b. Nonconformance with system policies; and
 - c. Assurance of quality in the delivery of emergency services.
- (4) Review and provide input and recommendations to the fire and EMS chief regarding new initiatives for the coordinated system's operating and capital improvement budgets.
- (5) Develop, in collaboration with the fire and EMS chief, a grievance procedure that is consistent with the procedure available to county employees to contest disciplinary or operational matters affecting individual volunteers. The general management and discipline of volunteers shall be a station-level responsibility, unless the fire and EMS chief must act and take personnel actions affecting any volunteer in order to protect the effective operation of the coordinated fire and emergency medical service system.
- (6) Meet on a regular basis and present a report annually to the board of supervisors regarding the health of the volunteer system.

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Sec. 42-1.57. - Procedure for developing policies of the Fire and Emergency Services System
coordinated fire and EMS system

All system-wide policies shall be developed through the following system:

(1) (1). The Chief shall establish SOPs, SOGs, rules and regulations in collaboration with PGFEMS Advisory Group Board for the Department of Fire and Emergency Service's effective operation throughout the County. The Chief retains all operational and policy control with respect to matters affecting only Prince George County Fire and Rescue. Personnel policies that affect only county employees or county volunteers will not be considered by the PGFEMS Advisory Board

(2) (2). All companies operating in Prince George County and all members of such companies shall operate in accordance with the standard operational procedures/policies and guidelines.

(1) The fire and EMS chief shall prepare the new system-level policies and shall review all existing system-wide policies. Any member of the coordinated fire and EMS system may suggest new policies or policy amendments to the fire and EMS chief and the PGFEMS Board through the member's chain of command. Personnel policies that affect only county employees or county volunteers will not be considered by the PGFEMS Board.

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(2) The fire and EMS chief shall consider any comments and recommendations on proposed policies from the PGFEMS Board and shall incorporate such recommendations for revision which, in his judgment, meet the system policy standards. Should the chief decline to accept any material recommendation for revision from the PGFEMS Board, he shall provide a written explanation of his decision to the PGFEMS Board after attempting to reach a consensus.

After considering any draft policy, the PGFEMS Board shall take one of the following actions by majority vote:

a. Accept the draft policy as worded.

b. Support the policy in principle, but with specific revisions.

c. Decline to accept the policy.

(3) By majority vote, the PGFEMS Board may appeal any decision to decline to accept a policy within seven days to the county administrator in writing giving its reasons for appeal. The county administrator shall consider such appeal and deny the appeal or remand to the PGFEMS Board for further review within ten days.

~~(1) The Chief shall establish SOPs, SOGs, rules and regulations in collaboration with Advisory Group for the Department's effective operation throughout the County. The Chief retains all operational and policy control with respect to matters affecting only Prince George County Fire and Rescue. Personnel policies that affect only county employees or county volunteers will not be considered by the PGFEMS Board.~~

~~(2) All companies operating in Prince George County and all members of such companies shall operate in accordance with the standard operational procedures/policies and guidelines.~~

Sec. 42-1.68. - Noncompliance with system policies.

The chiefs of all member organizations may communicate concerns about noncompliance with system policies to the Chief fire and EMS chief.

(1) All Fire and Emergency Services System fire and EMS employees, and volunteers shall comply with the county and Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services rules, regulations and directives as a condition of employment with or volunteer service in the Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

(2) Upon an allegation of a breach of Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services regulations or directives, the C fire and EMS chief shall have the authority to immediately suspend the accused person or department entity from duty, pending an investigation. If the investigation substantiates the allegation, the C fire and EMS chief may suspend from duty, terminate the employment, volunteer service of any individual, in accordance with the Prince George County Personnel Manual ("Personnel Manual"), or

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revoke the authority of a volunteer entity to operate as an emergency medical service provider or as a fire service provider in the county in accordance with the Virginia Code.

(3) Fire and Emergency Services System's EMS volunteers and employees shall comply with all requirements of the Virginia Public Procurement Act and county purchasing policy.

~~(1) As soon as practicable after receiving any such complaint, the fire and EMS chief shall determine whether reasonable cause exists to believe that there has been a material noncompliance with any system policy.~~

~~(2) The PGFEMS Board shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and its conclusions and submit the report to the fire and EMS chief no later than ten calendar days following the conclusion of the investigation. If the PGFEMS Board determines, by majority vote, that the charged party has materially noncomplied with system policy, with the concurrence of the fire and EMS chief, the charged party shall comply with all recommended steps for remediation of the noncompliance.~~

~~(3) Should the charged party substantially fail to implement the plan, the fire and EMS chief may modify the plan, discontinue the plan, implement an alternative plan, and/or take other action as needed. Prior to taking these steps, however, the fire and EMS chief must consult with the board about his intended action and consider its recommendations except when immediate action is required, in which case he shall consult with the board as soon as practicable after such action.~~

~~(4) If the board and fire and EMS chief determine that the nature of the noncompliance is so serious as to merit consideration of de-certification of the organization or reduction in its funding by the board of supervisors or repossession of equipment, they shall apprise the county administrator who shall refer the matter to the board of supervisors, which shall be the sole authority to take any punitive action, pursuant to Code of Virginia, § 27-10, and to determine annual appropriations.~~

~~(1) All fire and EMS employees and volunteers shall comply with Fire and EMS Department regulations and directives as a condition of employment with or volunteer service in the Fire and EMS Department.~~

~~(2) Upon an allegation of a breach of Fire and EMS Department regulations or directives, the fire and EMS chief shall have the authority to suspend the accused person or department entity from duty, pending an investigation. If the investigation substantiates the allegation, the fire and EMS chief may suspend from duty, terminate the employment, volunteer service of any individual, in accordance with the Personnel Manual, or revoke the authority of a volunteer entity to operate as an emergency medical service provider or as a fire service provider in the county in accordance with the Virginia Code.~~

~~(3) Fire and EMS volunteers and employees shall comply with all requirements of the Virginia Public Procurement Act and county purchasing policy.~~

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In accordance with the requirements of the Code of Virginia, the following volunteer fire departments and rescue squads are recognized as an integral part of the official safety program of the county:

~~(1) Prince George Volunteer Fire Department, Company 1.~~

~~(2) Disputanta Volunteer Fire Department, Company 2.~~

~~(3) Carson Volunteer Fire Department, Company 3.~~

~~(4) Burrowsville Volunteer Fire Department, Company 4.~~

~~(5) Jefferson Park Volunteer Fire Department, Company 5.~~

~~(6) Prince George Emergency Crew.~~

~~(7) Volunteers within the Fire and EMS Department.~~

Only "active" members of the volunteer fire departments, crew and county department volunteers; defined as having responded to at least six emergency calls in the previous calendar year, shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits, Code of Virginia, § 9-1-400 et seq.

Sec. 42-1. ~~710.~~ - Physical examination for firefighters.

(a) Every firefighter, whether either salaried or volunteer, entering upon the service of the county, at the time of such entry, and as requested by the fire and EMS chief shall, at the expense of the county, undergo the physical examination required by current NFPA 1582 or other NFPA firefighter physical standards and Code of Virginia, § 27-40.1:1 by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state.

~~(a) Every firefighter, either salaried or volunteer, entering upon the service of the county, at the time of such entry, shall, at the expense of the county, undergo the physical examination required by Code of Virginia, § 27-40.1 by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state, which physical examination shall include the examination of the eyes, ear, nose, and throat; the glandular system, chest and lungs, heart and abdomen, inguinal area; the extremities; blood pressure sitting, radial pulse; peripheral pulse; a general neurological examination; and a physical agility examination. In addition such examination shall include a blood count, routine urinalysis, hemoglobin and hematocrit, blood serology, large chest X-ray (posterior-anterior and lateral), a 12-lead electrocardiogram, and any other specialty tests indicated by abnormal findings from any of the foregoing tests. The physician conducting such examination shall submit a written report thereof to the fire and EMS chief on a prescribed form which sets forth the result of each of the tests and studies, and his findings, based upon the results, as to whether such firefighter is free from respiratory diseases, hypertension, heart disease or any other physical defect that would actually or potentially impair the firefighter's fitness to function as a firefighter.~~

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~~(b)The fire and EMS chief shall contract with such physicians, clinics or hospitals for the performance by such physicians, clinics or hospitals of the physical examination and laboratory and diagnostic studies prescribed in subsection (a) of this section~~

~~Sec. 42-1.9. Physical examination for firefighters;~~

~~(a) Every firefighter, either salaried or volunteer, entering upon the service of the county, at the time of such entry, and as requested by the fire and EMS chief shall, at the expense of the county, undergo the physical examination required by current NFPA 1582 standards and Code of Virginia, § 27-40.1-1 by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state.~~

Sec. 42-1. ~~8.11~~. - Participation by sixteen-year-old residents as firefighters; conditions.

Sixteen-year-olds may serve as firefighters, provided they attain certification under the National Fire Protection Association 1001, Level One, administered by the state department of fire programs. Parental consent will be necessary, and all persons under 18 will be restricted from driving fire vehicles in any situation.

42-1. ~~9.11~~ - Criminal history records check.

~~In accordance with the requirements of Code of Virginia, §§ 32.1-111.5, 15.2-1503.1 and 19.2-389, as amended, all applicants for employment with the Prince George Coordinated Fire and Emergency Medical Services System, or applicants to become volunteers in such system, shall participate in a state and national criminal history records check as required and administered by the county. The fire and EMS chief is hereby designated as the county's representative in coordinating such record checks with the FBI and the Central Criminal Records Exchange. The applicant shall submit to fingerprinting and provide personal descriptive information to be forwarded along with the individual's fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information. The Central Criminal Records Exchange, upon receipt of an individual's record or notification that no record exists, shall forward it to the designated county governmental employee~~

~~(1) In accordance with the requirements of Code of Virginia, §§ 32.1-111.5, 27-6.2, 15.2-1503.1, 12VAC5-31-540, and 19.2-389, as amended, all applicants for employment and volunteer with the Prince George Fire and Emergency ServicesMS System, shall~~

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participate in a state and national criminal history records check as required and administered by the county and Commonwealth of Virginia. The ~~C~~fire and EMS chief is hereby designated as the county's representative in coordinating such record checks with the FBI and the Central Criminal Records Exchange. The applicant shall submit to fingerprinting and provide personal descriptive information to be forwarded along with the individual's fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information. The Central Criminal Records Exchange, upon receipt of an individual's record or notification that no record exists, shall forward it to the designated county governmental employee. In the interest of public welfare and safety, and review of such records of incumbents may be conducted, to determine if the past criminal conduct of any person with a criminal record would be compatible with the nature of the employment or service, in accordance with applicable laws and policies.

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(2) In the interest of the public welfare and safety, the ~~C~~fire and EMS chief shall review the department of motor vehicle records of applicants for employment and for volunteer service in the ~~Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services~~Department. The ~~C~~fire and EMS chief shall work with the Prince George Human Resources department to annually review the department of motor vehicle records of ~~Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services'~~ employees and volunteers. These reviews will determine if the past driving record of any person would bar employment or service with the ~~Fire and EMS Department of Fire and Emergency Services~~ in accordance with the provisions of the Personnel Manual. ~~If When in the sole judgment of the fire and EMS chief a driving history report contains such information that the opportunity for employment or service should be denied, that person will not be hired or accepted into the volunteer service in accordance with the provisions of the Personnel Manual. If that person is currently employed or serving as a volunteer, the~~ ~~C~~fire and EMS chief may immediately suspend that person from driving duty, and that person may be subject to removal or termination from the ~~D~~Fire and EMS department of Fire and Emergency Services, in accordance with the Personnel ManualPolicy.

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~~In accordance with the requirements of Code of Virginia, §§ 32.1-111.5, 15.2-1503.1 and 19.2-389, as amended, all applicants for employment with the Prince George Coordinated Fire and Emergency Medical Services System, or applicants to become volunteers in such system, shall participate in a state and national criminal history records check as required and administered by~~

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~~the county. The fire and EMS chief is hereby designated as the county's representative in coordinating such record checks with the FBI and the Central Criminal Records Exchange. The applicant shall submit to fingerprinting and provide personal descriptive information to be forwarded along with the individual's fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information. The Central Criminal Records Exchange, upon receipt of an individual's record or notification that no record exists, shall forward it to the designated county governmental employee.~~

(c) That the Ordinance shall be effective immediately.

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CHAPTER 42 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

Paul Beamon

Fire Chief

Prince George Fire/EMS



SEC. 42-1.1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRINCE GEORGE COORDINATED FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM

- Will see throughout document that we changed “**Coordinated & Integrated fire and emergency medical service system**” to “**Fire and Emergency Services System**”
- As a Combined Department we use the same State Issued Fire Department ID Number so we listed the departments now as stations.
- Did not list Volunteer, Combined, or Career as future needs would require document changes so left it generic.



EXAMPLE

- Prince George County Disputanta ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Department Station 2, Company 2
- Prince George County Carson ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Department Station 3, Company 3.
- (4) Prince George County Burrowsville ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Department Station 4, Company 4.
- (5) Prince George County Jefferson Park ~~Volunteer~~ Fire Department Station 5, Company 5.
- ~~(6) Prince George Emergency Crew.~~
- (6) Prince George County South Crater Fire Station 6, Company 6



SEC. 42-12. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COORDINATED FIRE AND RESCUE SYSTEM

- This section is removed as state law already has what a fire and rescue system is responsible for.
- We did take some of the items and simply moved them throughout the document.



**SEC. 42-1.3 NOW IS 42-1.2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ~~FIRE AND EMERGENCY~~
~~MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) CHIEF~~ FIRE AND EMERGENCY
SERVICES CHIEF.**

- Virginia Code § 27-6.1, and for the County EMS Chief as specified in Code of Virginia, § 32.1-111.4:6. Illustrates the authority of the Chief so the referred to it and spelled out some of the Code.
- Part 2 of this section simply states that the Chief is to lead planning, training, preparation of disasters Pursuant to Title 44 of the Virginia Code
- Parts 3 illustrates the responsibilities of the Chief to include: Set minimum standards and requirements for all Fire and Emergency Services System's personnel, training, licensure, staffing, reporting requirements, rank structure, system funding, performance, response districts, mutual aid agreements, system fleet size, deployment, and goals for the delivery of high-quality fire and emergency services;



42-1.4 IS NOW 42-1.3

RESPONSIBILITIES OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES, AND VOLUNTEER STATION CHIEFS.

- Added the Definitions of Volunteer per Virginia Code 27-9
 - "Volunteer" means a member of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services who serves without pay and whose name has been duly certified to the Circuit Court Clerk of Prince George County by the chief of such volunteer fire company as an active member thereof and as further defined in Virginia Code § 27-9.

Added what was an "Active Member

- "Active member" means a volunteer who provides an average of 24 hours of station duty service where they are able to respond to calls to the county a month in a calendar year and responds to no less than ten (10) percent of the class for their assigned station. Only "active" members of the volunteer fire departments, system and county department volunteers; defined as having responded as stated above, shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits, Code of Virginia, § 9.1-400 et seq.

- Non-Active

- c. Non-active members are defined as members that are listed by the department as exempt from providing station duty hours and do not respond to calls and shall not be issued turnout gear. Non-active members are those members that assist in fundraising, honorary, or life members that perform no operational duty functions.



42-1.4 IS NOW 42-1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES, AND VOLUNTEER STATION CHIEFS.

- This section was updated to illustrate responsibilities of the Volunteer Chiefs and Members as per Virginia Code 27-11
- Volunteer fire companies and volunteer station chiefs shall operate in conformity with state laws, county ordinances, and the duly adopted policies and directives of the County, Chief, and the Fire and Emergency Services System. Every member of the volunteer fire company shall, upon any alarm of fire or call of a medical emergency, attend and endeavor to extinguish such fire or assist in the medical emergency as per Virginia Code § 27-11.
- Volunteer fire companies shall have all the powers and duties granted to them by state law. Subject to the policies and direction of the Chief, they shall also have the following responsibilities while acting in conformity with chains of command and policies of the Fire and Emergency Services:



42-1.4 IS NOW 42-1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES, AND VOLUNTEER STATION CHIEFS. — CONTINUED

Major Change here is 3-(d) of this section.

- d. The chief of each volunteer fire station shall submit to the Chief a list of the active members on September 1 of each year. Information contained in this report shall consist of and all documentation illustrating number of duty hours per month for each member and number of calls answered per member. On the first of each month, the chief of each volunteer fire company shall submit to the Chief any additions or deletions to the active membership of that volunteer fire company. In addition, the chief at each station shall file a copy of their by-laws, any resolutions, minutes of their board of directors and association's annual report by September 1 of each year with the Chief; and



SEC. 42-1.5 IS NOW 42-1-4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRINCE GEORGE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

- This is cleaned up and now states
- d. The chief of each volunteer fire station shall submit to the Chief a list of the active members on September 1 of each year. Information contained in this report shall consist of and all documentation illustrating number of duty hours per month for each member and number of calls answered per member. On the first of each month, the chief of each volunteer fire company shall submit to the Chief any additions or deletions to the active membership of that volunteer fire company. In addition, the chief at each station shall file a copy of their by-laws, any resolutions, minutes of their board of directors and association's annual report by September 1 of each year with the Chief; and



42-1.6 DUTIES OF THE PRINCE GEORGE FIRE AND EMS (PGFEMS BOARD)

- This section is removed as this referred to policy, not ordinance, and had some items that were stated in the original ordinance in other areas. IE Develop policy and communicate with one another.



SEC. 42-1.7 IS NOW 42-1-5 PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPING POLICY

- Cleaned up and removed items that are policy concerns not ordinance. The two main sections continue to remain

(1) The Chief shall establish SOPs, SOGs, rules and regulations in collaboration with PGFEMS Advisory Board for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' effective operation throughout the County. Personnel policies that affect only county employees or county volunteers will not be considered by the PGFEMS Advisory Board

(2) All companies operating in the county and all members of such companies shall operate in accordance with the standard operational procedures/policies and guidelines.



NEXT MAIN ITEM IS 42-1.10 THAT IS NOW 42-1.7 PHYSICAL EXAM FOR FIREFIGHTERS

- Cleaned this up to follow the NFPA standard so that we did not need to list every item that is required and if the NFPA Standard changes we did not need to change the document.
- Every firefighter, whether salaried or volunteer, entering upon the service of the county, at the time of such entry, and as requested by the Chief shall, at the expense of the county, undergo the physical examination required by current NFPA 1582 standards and Code of Virginia, § 27-40.1:1 by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state.



QUESTIONS??

