

BENSLEY-BERMUDA VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD

STANDARD OPERATING RULE

TOPIC: CHAIN OF COMMAND	S.O.R. # 1.3.1
Approved by: Barry Drumheller, Chief of Operations	Revised: 10/16/06 Replaces: N/A

Purpose: To provide members with an articulated chain of command to follow for operations and general issues.

Definitions:

None.

Policy/Procedure:

1. Chain of Command

The chain of command delineating overall authority is as follows:

- a. Chief of Operations; who is senior to the
- b. Currently responsible Operations Officer, depending on time (day, night or weekend); who is senior to the
- c. On-duty Captain; who is senior to the
- d. On-duty Lieutenant, acting in a supervisory staff capacity; who is senior to the
- e. Attendant-in-Charge, except that while providing patient care the AIC is removed from the chain of command; who is senior to the
- f. Driver; who is senior to the
- g. Member, beginning with the most senior, as defined by years of service in the Squad.

2. Rescue Operations

Vehicle rescue operations require specialized knowledge and skills. Operational personnel assigned to these roles possess a great deal of knowledge and training within their specialty, and command of these persons requires similar amounts of knowledge and training. Therefore it is expected that the Rescue Officer shall have the option of assuming overall scene command while operating in a rescue operation situation.

The chain of command delineating overall authority at a rescue operation scene is as follows:

- a. Chief of Operations; who is senior to the
- b. Rescue Officer; who is senior to the
- c. On-duty Rescue Technician; who is senior to the
- d. Currently responsible Operations Officer, depending on time (day, night or weekend); who is senior to the
- e. On-duty Captain; who is senior to the
- f. On-duty Lieutenant, acting in a supervisory staff capacity; who is senior to the
- g. Attendant-in-Charge, except that while providing patient care the AIC is removed from the chain of command; who is senior to the
- h. Driver; who is senior to the
- i. Member, beginning with the most senior, as defined by years of service in the Squad.

3. General Procedure

- a. Members not in the chain of command will refrain from giving unauthorized orders or directions.

- b. No person shall give an order relating to patient care running counter to the direction of senior medical personnel on-scene or either on-line medical control or medical standing orders.
- c. Members receiving questions from the public with regard to Squad policy or procedure should refer same up the chain of command.
- d. All concerns with regard to squad operations, policy, problems on calls, problems with members, associated agencies or the public are to be handled as follows:
 - i. Members will document the problem and report same to the on-duty Captain. The on-duty Captain will report same to the Operations Officer as defined in 1(b), who will determine any necessary action. If the problem is with the on-duty Captain, the member may report the situation directly to the Operations Officer.
- e. Failure to follow this procedure will result in disciplinary action.