

JORDAN VALLEY EMS AUTHORITY POLICY

POLICY #:202.1.4

SUBJECT: VEHICLE CRASHES

CAAS STANDARD: 202.1.4

SCOPE: ALL EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for dealing with motor vehicle crashes involving ambulances and other Authority vehicles.

POLICY:

In the event that an Authority vehicle is involved in an accident, this procedure will be followed. It is the intent to avoid such unfortunate incidents by training and safe work practices.

PROCEDURE:

PROCEDURES FOR VEHICLE CRASHES

In any vehicle crash involving an Authority vehicle: (unless indicated under the section "minor" incidents)

1. Ensure that all occupants of the vehicle are safe
2. Ensure that there are no hazards such as leaking fuel or the possibility of fire
3. If the Authority vehicle was an emergency vehicle en route to an emergency scene, the appropriate 911 center will be notified of the situation directly by the vehicle involved via cellular phone immediately, if no cellular phone available, via radio.
4. Personnel will immediately contact 911 dispatch centers for necessary resources
5. Personnel will immediately contact the EMS Director.
6. If the accident occurs while transporting a non-emergency patient, the dispatcher will contact another Authority ambulance or another ambulance service to continue transport of the patient.
7. The first priority will be taking care of any injured parties
8. If practical, when exiting the vehicle all Authority personnel will observe safety requirements for the use of high visibility clothing
9. If practical the Authority employees will set out visual warning devices as needed.
10. Authority personnel will render care to other injured parties and themselves as best they can until help arrives.
11. Under no circumstances will the driver of the vehicle leave the scene unless injured, until allowed to do so by law enforcement
12. The driver will attempt to gather demographic information on other drivers if possible or practical
13. The vehicles involved will only be moved when authorized to do so by law enforcement
14. Photographs of the scene will be taken for investigation purposes. These photographs will not include those of any injured parties as to comply with medical control protocols.
15. The driver will cooperate fully with law enforcement
16. If the Authority vehicle involved is drivable it will be taken back to the station and left out of service until inspected by EMS Director or designee
17. If the vehicle is not drivable, the vehicle will be towed either to a repair facility or to the station as instructed by the Director.
18. The employees occupying the Authority vehicle will be drug tested as per the drug-free / alcohol-free policy.

MINOR INCIDENTS

If the crash is a single vehicle and damage is minor, (is a bent bumper or quarter panel) and there is no other damage to private or public property, or other vehicles, the driver may continue with their Authority business and immediately contact a supervisor. Common sense should prevail when assessing the severity of an accident and the need for involvement of law enforcing or other resources.

POST ACCIDENT

1. The operator of the vehicle will be subject to a drug screen, breath or blood alcohol test. Refer to Policy 106.7.1.8
2. The operator of the vehicle and all employed passengers will complete a vehicle accident report.

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3. The Authority will conduct an investigation of the event
4. The Authority will take necessary disciplinary actions when the investigation is complete. These may include but not limited to:
 - a. The operator may be required to re-take a complete CEVO III course or a refresher course.
 - b. The operator may have their driving status suspended until completion of said training.
 - c. Suspension of driving privileges pending retraining or for a set period of time
 - d. Written reprimand or suspension
 - e. Termination
5. The Authority will report the incident to insurance carriers as necessary
6. The Authority will report the incident to the medical control authority if the accident occurred while responding to a call, transporting a patient, and/or patient care could have been compromised.
7. The Authority will maintain records of the incident

POLICY HISTORY:

Implemented February 1, 2015

Reviewed