

DEPLOYMENT OF MEDICAL SUPPORT UNIT (MSU)

CHAPTER 9.2

Issued: October 2013

Revised: January 2018

Submitted By: Technical Services

Approved By: Chief of Fire Rescue

Purpose

Alachua County Fire Rescue's Medical Support Unit is an asset to the citizens of Alachua County and the State of Florida. The purpose of this guideline is to provide a framework for the deployment of this resource.

Definitions

- Local Response is a response to within the borders of Alachua County.
- Mutual Aid Response is a deployment to the counties contiguous to Alachua County
- State Deployment is a request made through the State EOC with an assigned tasking number and is generally deployment outside of the contiguous counties but within the borders of the State of Florida.
- Federal Deployment is a deployment outside the State of Florida.

Deployment

Deployment of the MSU will be by special call. A Chief Officer must authorize its use.

Staffing Levels

- Local Response

Staffing for the MSU will be dictated by the needs of the incident. Incidents where the MSU will be used in a support function, such as a rehab-unit, one operator will transport the vehicle to the incident. Incidents with more complex incident needs will dictate the initial deployment staffing.

Minimum staffing for non-medical support will be one driver

Minimum staffing for medical support will be one driver, and one officer (Rescue Lieutenant or Lieutenant/Paramedic).

- Mutual Aid Response

Agencies outside of ACFR can request the MSU for response under existing mutual aid agreements. A Chief Officer will approve these deployments. Staffing for mutual aid incidents will require at a minimum two personnel (See Local Medical Support Staffing).

- State Deployment

Staffing levels for a State deployment will be a minimum of 5-7 personnel. Staffing shall consist of; one driver operator, one officer and three to five firefighters. At least three members of the crew will be Paramedics. When operationally possible a chief officer will accompany the MSU with a support vehicle for all State deployments.

- Federal Deployment

Federal deployment will be at the discretion of the Fire Chief or his designee. Staffing will be dictated by the incident.