

Cocoa Beach Police Department

Standard Operating Procedure



Effective Date: February 8, 2022	Replaces: Amends: August 24, 2020	Number: 030.00
Subject: Automated External Defibrillator (AED)		Re-evaluation Date: 2023
Distribution: ALL PERSONNEL	Related Standards: 10.13M	

This order consists of the following numbered sections:

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2. Scope
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1. PURPOSE

The Cocoa Beach Police Department has the ability to assist residents and visitors by providing intervention in emergency medical situations by use of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator). At the onset of sudden cardiac arrest application of the AED coupled with Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) may increase the chance of survival.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees of the Cocoa Beach Police Department.

3. DEFINITION

- A. Automated External Defibrillator (AED) – An electronic device used to analyze the heart rhythm of a patient and provide electrical shock if necessary.
- B. AED Coordinator – Individual assigned by the Chief of Police or designee to ensure that the training, care, and use of AED's by members of Cocoa Beach Police Department is consistent with guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association, Instructions for Use manual, and this policy.
- C. American Heart Association – Organization that establishes rescuer guidelines for responding to and treating Sudden Cardiac Arrest.
- D. Cardiac Science Powerheart AED G3Plus 9390A Automated Defibrillator - AED issued for use by Cocoa Beach Police Department.
- E. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a combination of rescue breathing and chest compressions delivered to victims thought to be in cardiac arrest. When cardiac arrest occurs, the heart stops pumping blood. CPR can support a small amount of blood flow to the heart and brain to “buy time” until normal heart function is restored.
- F. Department - Cocoa Beach Police Department
- G. Good Samaritan Act – Florida State Statute 768.13 – Any person, including those licensed to practice medicine, who gratuitously and in good faith renders emergency care or treatment either in direct response to emergency situations related to and arising out of a public health emergency declared pursuant to F.S.S. 381.00315, a state of emergency which has been declared pursuant to F.S.S 252.36 or at the scene of an emergency outside of a hospital, doctor's office, or other place having proper medical equipment, without objection of the injured victim or victims thereof, shall not be held liable

for any civil damages as a result of such care or treatment or as a result of any act or failure to act in providing or arranging further medical treatment where the person acts as an ordinary reasonably prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

H. Instructions for Use manual – The manufacturer’s Instructions for Use for the Cardiac Science, Powerheart Automated External Defibrillator, G3 Plus 9390A and 9390E or the Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator.

I. Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator - AED issued for use by Cocoa Beach Police Department.

4. **TRAINING**

A. All CPR, AED and Basic First Aid training will be conducted every two years pursuant to the guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association. (CFA 10.13M)

B. AED Units shall only be assigned to officers who have successfully completed Department training.

C. Other department members and volunteers may also be trained in CPR and AED.

5. **AED DEPLOYMENT**

A. Department members shall only use the AED in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations found in the Instructions for Use manual and within the scope and limitations of the department training and policy.

B. Dispatching Emergency Medical Service (EMS) assistance to an unresponsive and not breathing patient is the Communication Center’s first priority. The Communications Center may also dispatch an available first response police officer. The On-Duty Shift Supervisor will be notified of the call for service and determine the response priority.

C. An AED will be kept in an identifiable and accessible case fixed to the wall next to the holding facility. A daily maintenance check is to be conducted by each On-Duty Shift Supervisor as part of the holding facility inspection. The AED Coordinator is responsible for the monthly maintenance of this AED.

D. Unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police, or designee, officers assigned to the police motorcycle, police bicycle, criminal investigations division, command, foot patrol, etc., are not required to have a readily accessible AED.

E. An AED will be available at Cocoa Beach Police Department sponsored training that involves dynamic or physically demanding exercise, to include firearms, defensive tactics, Electronic Control Device, driving, etc.

6. **PROCEDURES & REPORTING**

It is the responsibility of the assigned officers to ensure the AED is ready for service at the beginning of a tour of duty.

A. Check the Rescue Ready Status Indicator – the Rescue Ready status indicator is located on the AED handle of the Cardiac Science, Powerheart AED or present on the top of the main body of the Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator. If the indicator is green (Cardiac Science, Powerheart AED) or flashes (Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator) the AED is ready for service. If the Rescue Ready status indicator is red on the Cardiac Science, Powerheart AED or does not flash on the Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator, the AED requires maintenance.

B. Ensure the dates on the defibrillation pads are valid and wires are attached.

C. Ensure AED contains pediatric defibrillation pads (Cardiac Science, Powerheart AED) or a pediatric key (Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator).

D. Listen for the Audible Maintenance Indicator – If the Audible Maintenance Indicator is beeping service may be required.

E. Ensure the AED contains the Instructions for Use manual. If necessary, refer to the Instructions for Use manual for maintenance and troubleshooting.

F. In the event an AED is determined to be in need of maintenance or out of service it is the responsibility of the assigned officer to notify the On-Duty Shift Supervisor and the AED Coordinator.

G. If the AED Coordinator or On-Duty Shift Supervisor determines that an AED is not in working order or out of date, the AED will be removed from service until such time as the AED receives maintenance, repair, or the pads have been replaced.

H. When not in use AED’s will be properly restrained in the vehicle cab or in the trunk of the vehicle.

I. Cleaning and care are the responsibility of the assigned officer.

J. Following the use of an AED upon a person, the officer shall report it immediately to the On-Duty Shift Supervisor and submit a police report describing its use. The AED Coordinator will be notified and utilize Cardiac Science software to download a medical record of the event if the Cardiac Science,

Powerheart AED was used. Said medical record will be entered into evidence until its records retention has expired. The AED will then be prepared and placed back in service for use.

7. **INDICATIONS FOR USE**

The AED is indicated for emergency treatment of victims exhibiting symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest who are unresponsive and not breathing. Post-resuscitation, if the victim is breathing, the AED should be left attached to allow for acquisition and detection of the ECG rhythm.

8. **CONSIDERATIONS FOR USE – DANGERS, WARNINGS & CAUTIONS**

Below is a list of considerations when using an AED. Refer to the Instructions for Use manual for a complete list of Dangers, Warnings, and Cautions.

- A. DANGER: Do not use in the presence of flammable gases.
- B. WARNING: Shock Hazard - Do not use AED in standing water or rain. First move patient to dry area. Ensure patient's skin is clean and dry.
- C. WARNING: Shock Hazard - Do not touch the patient, unless performance of CPR is indicated.
- D. WARNING: Shock Hazard - Do not touch metal objects in contact with the patient.
- E. WARNING: Shock Hazard - Keep defibrillation pads clear of other pads or metal parts in contact with the patient.
- F. CAUTION: When the patient is a child or infant under 8 years of age or weighs up to 55 pounds (25 kg), the AED should be used with the pediatric defibrillation pads or the pediatric key. Therapy should not be delayed to determine the patient's exact age or weight.
- G. CAUTION: Do not use AED on a boat or in a moving vehicle. Stop all motion or vibration before attempting a rescue.
- H. CAUTION: Special consideration must be used with subjects that have a hairy chest – A razor to shave excessive hair is available in the pouch attached to the AED, if necessary.
- I. CAUTION: If a lump smaller than a deck of cards is discovered on the chest – this is an implanted pacemaker or defibrillator, place the pads approximately 1 inch away from the lump.
- J. CAUTION: When attempting a rescue using an AED, do not operate wireless radio telephones (cell phones) within 1 meter of the AED. Turn off cell phone.
- K. CAUTION: Environmental conditions such as temperature extremes may compromise the AED's ability to function properly resulting in a Rescue Ready "Service Required" alert. Move AED to environmental conditions within acceptable operating parameters at once.

9. **EXCEPTIONS TO USE**

The person is obviously deceased (i.e., decapitation, rigor mortis, lividity, decomposition).

10. **REFERENCE**

Cardiac Science (n.d.). Powerheart Automated External Defibrillator, G3 Plus 9390A and 9390E, Instructions for Use

Heartstart FR3 Defibrillator, Edition 7, Guide to Setup, Operation and Maintenance

[The Florida Legislature \(20212016\). F.S. 768.13- Good Samaritan Act; immunity from civil liability.](#)

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