

CODE OF D.C. MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS
Copyright (c) 2009 Matthew Bender & Company, Inc.
a member of the LexisNexis Group.
All rights reserved.

*** THIS FILE INCLUDES ALL REGULATIONS ADOPTED AND PUBLISHED THROUGH THE ***
*** D.C. REGISTER, VOL. 56, ISSUE 48, November 27, 2009 ***

TITLE 29. PUBLIC WELFARE
CHAPTER 5. AMBULANCE SERVICE

CDCR 29-500 (2009)

29-500. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

500.1 No person, firm, corporation, association, or government agency, either as owner, agency, or otherwise, shall operate or hold itself out in any way as operating an ambulance in the District without a currently valid license issued pursuant to this chapter by the Mayor for that ambulance.

500.2 No ambulance shall be operated for ambulance purposes in the District unless it is staffed by at least two (2) persons, one (1) of whom is an Emergency Medical Technician and one (1) of whom is an Emergency Medical Technician/Driver.

500.3 No person, firm, corporation, association, or government agency shall advertise or disseminate information to the public that emergency medical technician/paramedic ambulance service is offered unless that service is, in fact, provided by emergency medical technician/paramedics or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedics in mobile intensive care units, as defined by the Mayor pursuant to § 502, on a continuous twenty-four (24) hour per day basis.

500.4 If advertising or information regarding emergency medical technician/paramedic ambulance service appears on any vehicle, it may only appear on those mobile intensive care unit vehicles, as defined by the Mayor pursuant to § 502, utilized on a continuous twenty-four (24) hour per day basis to provide service.

500.5 Any individual or any member, officer, director, agency, or employee of any firm, voluntary association, joint-stock company, incorporated society, or corporation who violates or participates in the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished by a fine of not more than three hundred dollars (\$ 300) or by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or both.

500.6 Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed as repealing or affecting any other law or regulation of the District.

500.7 If any section, provision, or requirement of this chapter is held invalid for any reason, that holding shall not affect the validity or operation of any other section, provision, or requirement of this chapter.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-501. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR AMBULANCES.

501.1 The Mayor shall prescribe standards for ambulance licensing that will achieve safe and expeditious transportation of patients in a fashion consistent with the safety of the general public.

501.2 Before granting a license for an ambulance, the Mayor shall require each applicant to supply the following:

- (a) The name and address of the applicant and of the owner of the ambulance;
- (b) The training and experience of the applicant in the transportation and care of patients;
- (c) A description of the ambulance to be licensed, including the make, model number, year of manufacture, vehicle identification number, license number, the length of time the ambulance has been in use, the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram, or other distinguishing characteristics to be used to designate the applicant's ambulance;
- (d) The address of the place or places from which the ambulance will operate; and
- (e) Other information that the Mayor deems reasonably necessary to determine compliance with this chapter.

501.3 No license for an ambulance shall be issued unless the Mayor finds that the ambulance is, and will be at all times when in use as an ambulance, in compliance with the following:

- (a) The ambulance shall be equipped with equipment conforming to the standards issued by the Mayor pursuant to § 502;
- (b) The ambulance shall be in compliance with all applicable laws and ordinances relating to health, sanitation, and safety; and
- (c) The ambulance shall be covered by insurance of a kind and in amounts conforming with standards set forth by the Mayor pursuant to § 503; Provided, that this requirement shall not apply to ambulances owned and operated by an agency of the District government.

501.4 The Mayor shall issue to an applicant complying with the requirements established by this chapter a license and two (2) decals.

501.5 The decals, which indicate that the ambulance has been licensed by the Mayor and the date on which the license expires, shall be affixed in prominent places on the front and rear of the licensed ambulance.

501.6 No ambulance license shall be sold, transferred, or assigned without the approval of the Mayor. Approval may be granted only upon a demonstration that the ambulance and its operation will conform with all licensing requirements as though it were the subject of an application for original license.

501.7 No license for an ambulance shall be issued unless the ambulance has been physically inspected by the Mayor to determine compliance with the licensing requirements.

501.8 Each licensed ambulance, its equipment, and the premises designated in the application, shall be available for inspection by the Mayor during the usual hours of operation.

501.9 The Mayor shall subject each ambulance licensed under this chapter to at least two (2) unscheduled inspections per year to determine compliance with the licensing standards.

501.10 No license issued under this chapter shall be valid for a period longer than one (1) year.

501.11 Renewal of an ambulance license shall be granted upon application demonstrating compliance with all licensing requirements, as though the ambulance were the subject of an application for original license.

501.12 Deleted by 45 DCR 8542 (12/4/98)

501.13 The Mayor may establish additional license requirements for an ambulance serving as a mobile intensive care unit, as defined by the Mayor pursuant to § 502, including additional fees for that license.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

December 4, 1998 501.12 deleted at 45 DCR 8542 by the Department of Health

29-502. AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT.

502.1 The Mayor shall promulgate rules specifying standards for the kind, quantity, and quality of equipment required on each ambulance licensed under this chapter.

502.2 Rules issued under the requirements of § 502.1 shall be promulgated with the assistance of the District of Columbia Advisory Committee on Emergency Medical Services, and shall take into consideration the current list of minimal equipment for ambulances adopted by the American College of Surgeons or its duly authorized Committee on Trauma.

502.3 Rules issued under § 502.1 shall require each ambulance to maintain, at a minimum, the following kinds of equipment or their functional equivalents:

- (a) Two-way radio mobile equipment capable of providing a reliable system operating range of at least a twenty (20) mile radius from the base station antenna;
- (b) Rescue equipment;
- (c) Resuscitation equipment, including portable oxygen equipment, suction equipment, and ventilation equipment;
- (d) First aid and emergency supplies;
- (e) Cardiac treatment equipment;
- (f) Equipment for the treatment of fractures;
- (g) Equipment for the treatment of wounds;
- (h) Litters and stretcher's; and
- (i) Emergency obstetrical equipment.

502.4 The Mayor, with the assistance of the District of Columbia Advisory Committee on Emergency Medical Services, may promulgate rules specifying additional equipment and vehicular requirements for an ambulance serving as a mobile intensive care unit.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-503. LIABILITY INSURANCE.

503.1 The Mayor shall promulgate rules specifying insurance to be required on all ambulances licensed under this chapter.

503.2 The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to ambulances owned and operated by agencies of the District government.

503.3 No ambulance license shall be issued under this chapter unless there is at all times in force and effect insurance coverage for the ambulance issued by an insurance company or companies licensed to do business in the District providing for the payment of damages for the following:

- (a) Bodily injury to or death of individuals in accidents resulting from any cause for which the owner of the vehicle would be liable, regardless of whether the ambulance was being driven by the owner or his or her agent; and
- (b) Loss of or damage to the property of another, including personal property, under similar circumstances.

CDCR 29-504

503.4 Rules issued by the Mayor shall, at a minimum, require that the insurance coverage specified in this section shall provide for the payment of maximum damages in an amount of not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$ 100,000) per individual for bodily injuries or death, and that the insurance coverage specified in this section shall provide for the payment of maximum damages in an amount of not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$ 100,000) per incident.

503.5 The Mayor shall require the submission of applicable insurance policies prior to the issuance of each ambulance license.

503.6 The Mayor shall require each insurance policy to contain provisions stating the following:

- (a) That the liability under the policy continues to the full amount of the policy, notwithstanding any recovery on the policy;
- (b) That the liability of the insurer shall not be affected by the insolvency or the bankruptcy of the insured; and
- (c) That the insurance company shall not be relieved from liability on account of non-payment of premium unless and until the policy has been revoked.

503.7 Insurance coverage shall provide for the payment of any judgments, up to the limits of the policy, recovered against any person other than the owner, his or her agent, or employee, who operates the ambulance with the consent or acquiescence of the owner.

503.8 The Mayor shall require that each insurance policy extends for the period to be covered by the license applied for and that the insurer will be obliged to give not less than fifteen (15) days written notice to the Mayor and to the insured before any cancellation or termination of the policy earlier than its expiration date.

503.9 The cancellation or other termination of any policy issued under this section shall automatically revoke and terminate the licenses issued for the ambulances covered by the policy, unless another insurance policy complying with the provisions of this section is provided and is in effect at the time of the cancellation or termination.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-504. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AND TECHNICIAN/PARAMEDICS.

504.1 The Mayor shall, with the assistance of the District Advisory Committee on Emergency Medical Services, establish certifying requirements for emergency medical technicians designed to ensure that they possess the requisite character qualifications, skills, health, and maturity to provide care for the persons they serve.

504.2 The Mayor shall require each applicant for a certificate as an emergency medical technician to provide evidence, in a form acceptable to the Mayor, that the applicant is free from addiction to narcotics or alcoholic beverages and from physical or mental defects or diseases that would impair the applicant's ability to provide emergency care for persons transported by ambulance.

504.3 The Mayor shall require each certified emergency medical technician to obtain a physical examination at least annually and to report the results of the examination on a form satisfactory to the Mayor.

504.4 No person shall be certified to serve as an emergency medical technician who has not attained his or her eighteenth (18th) birthday.

504.5 The Mayor shall require each applicant for a certificate as an emergency medical technician to pass a written and practical examination demonstrating satisfactory completion of a course of study no less stringent than the "Basic Training Program for Emergency Medical Technicians-Ambulance," published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the United States Department of Transportation.

504.6 No emergency medical technician's certificate shall be granted for more than two (2) years.

504.7 The training and continuing education requirements between certification and recertification shall include the following:

(a) Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") recertification and twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education within the first year; and

(b) CPR recertification, twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education, and a twenty-four (24) hour refresher course within the second year.

504.8 Recertification shall be granted only upon successful completion of a recertification examination approved by the Mayor.

504.9 No emergency medical technician certificate may be assigned or transferred.

504.10 Deleted by 45 DCR 8542 (12/4/98)

504.11 The Mayor, on or before October 28, 1977, shall with the assistance of the District Advisory Committee for Emergency Medical Services promulgate rules and regulations establishing standards and procedures for the certification of emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedics.

504.12 The standards and procedures issued under § 504.11 shall include the following:

(a) A requirement for the satisfactory completion of a training course in emergency care approved by the EMS Advisory Committee, consisting of not less than one hundred (100) hours of classroom and practical instruction, including, but not limited, to, instruction in the following:

(1) All phases of basic life support; and

(2) The administration of drugs and intravenous solutions under the written or oral communication, either directly or via telecommunication, of a licensed physician;

(b) A requirement for the initial and the continual determination of skills through oral, written, and practical examinations;

(c) Provisions prescribing the life support services that may be provided by emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedics, including those services which require the supervision by telecommunication of a licensed physician;

(d) Provisions for the continuity of emergency medical care and assistance across state borders, including a provision for the reciprocal recognition of medical personnel certified or licensed by other jurisdictions; Provided, that this section shall not be construed to allow these personnel to perform any services which they are not licensed or certified by the parent jurisdiction to perform; and

(e) Provisions for the renewal, denial, suspension, and revocation of certification; provided, that an examination for the renewal of the certification of an emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic shall be required at least every twenty-four (24) months.

504.13 No applicant may be certified as an emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic unless the applicant has satisfied all conditions for certification as an emergency medical technician as required under this section.

504.14 During the practical portion of the training program specified in § 504.12, the emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic trainee shall be supervised continuously by a physician or by a registered nurse.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

December 4, 1998 504.10 deleted at 45 DCR 8542 by the Department of Health

29-505. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN COURSE.

505.1 The Mayor is authorized and directed to provide and to approve courses of study and training designed to do the following:

(a) Prepare interested persons for those oral, written, and practical examinations required for certification as an emergency medical technician;

(b) Prepare a certified emergency medical technician for certification as an emergency medical technician/paramedic or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic; and

(c) Assist a certified emergency medical technician or a certified emergency medical technician/paramedic or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic in improving and updating his or her skills, and in preparing a certified emergency medical technician/paramedic or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic for the examination for the renewal of his or her certification.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

December 4, 1998 505.1 amended at 45 DCR 8542 by the Department of Health

29-506. TEMPORARY PERMITS.

506.1 The Mayor may grant temporary permits of up to one (1) year to applicants for emergency medical technician and paramedics certification who do not meet the skill requirements specified in this chapter, if the Mayor finds that the public interest would be served.

506.2 No temporary permit issued pursuant to this section may be renewed.

506.3 Deleted by 45 DCR 8542 (12/4/98)

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

December 4, 1998 506.1 amended, 506.3 deleted at 45 DCR 8542 by the Department of Health

29-507. REVOCATION OF LICENSES.

507.1 The Mayor, after giving notice to the licensee or person certified or applicant for a license or certificate and an opportunity for a hearing, may suspend or revoke any license or certificate issued under this chapter, or may deny issuance of a license or certificate for failure to comply with or for a violation of this chapter.

507.2 Any person desiring a hearing shall request the hearing in writing within five (5) days after issuance of the notice.

507.3 In each case the Mayor shall maintain an official record, shall serve upon the licensee or person certified or the applicant a proposed decision including findings of fact and conclusions of law, and shall render the final decision in writing accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law.

507.4 Each case shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the D.C. Administrative Procedure Act (D.C. Code, §§ 1-1509 and 1-1510).

507.5 The Mayor may take emergency action pursuant to D.C. Code, § 1505(c), with regard to any suspension, revocation, or denial provided for in this section.

507.6 Upon suspension, revocation, or termination of an ambulance license or certificate under this section, the licensee or person certified shall surrender the decals issued by the Mayor. The ambulance shall cease operations as an ambulance and no person shall permit the ambulance to continue operations.

507.7 Upon suspension, revocation, or termination of the license or certificate of an emergency medical technician or emergency medical technician/paramedic or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic, that person shall cease to perform the duties of an emergency medical technician or emergency medical technician/paramedic or emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic, and no person shall employ or permit the individual to act in that capacity.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-508. SPECIAL STUDIES.

508.1 The Mayor shall, on or before June 11, 1973, institute a study of the adequacy of the existing emergency medical facilities in the District, including ambulance facilities, emergency hospital and clinic facilities, and similar facilities.

508.2 The study shall specifically include, but need not be limited to, questions such as the equal availability of these facilities to all residents of the District regardless of their ability to pay, and the adequacy of the existing allocation of these facilities throughout the city.

508.3 The Mayor shall, in conjunction with the District Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Service, study the feasibility of establishing standards for equipment uniformity among all ambulances licensed in the District, and for the design, construction, and maintenance of ambulances and vehicles operated solely for the transportation of non-ambulatory or handicapped patients to and from hospitals and other treatment facilities, licensed in the District.

508.4 A study shall be submitted to the Council on or before June 11, 1974, for review and adoption of regulations regarding standards for design, equipment, and personnel of vehicles operated solely for the transportation of non-ambulatory or handicapped patients to and from hospitals and other treatment facilities.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-509. EXEMPTIONS.

509.1 The following shall be exempt from the provisions of §§ 500 through 508 of this chapter:

(a) The unexpected use of a privately owned vehicle, not ordinarily used in the business of transporting persons who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise incapacitated or helpless in the performance of a lifesaving act;

(b) A vehicle rendering services as an ambulance in the case of a major catastrophe, disaster, or in an emergency when licensed ambulances are or may be insufficient to render the services required, and the Mayor has requested that the vehicle be so used;

(c) A vehicle, such as a Red Cross vehicle, stationed and available at a public event where an emergency is not anticipated by the organizer of the event or by District officials, which vehicle may be used to transport persons away from the event, provided an emergency, as defined in § 599, does not exist;

(d) Ambulances owned and operated by the United States government;

(e) Ambulances based outside the District which do not constitute public vehicles for hire; and

CDCR 29-510

(f) Vehicles operated solely for the transportation of non-ambulatory and handicapped patients to and from treatment facilities as out-patients; Provided, that this exemption shall not apply to any vehicle which is in any way held out as an ambulance.

509.2 For the purposes of this section, the following acts shall be deemed to be conclusive proof that a vehicle is held out as an ambulance:

(a) The use of the word "ambulance" on the vehicle, or in any advertising for the vehicle or the company that operates it, or in the company name;

(b) The marking of a vehicle, as with dome lights, sirens, or the like, in a fashion reasonably likely to create the impression that the vehicle is available for emergency transportation;

(c) The advertising of the vehicle or the company which owns it in the "Ambulance" section of the "Yellow Pages," or in any place where ambulance or emergency services are advertised;

(d) Any advertising of the vehicle or the company which is designed to inform the public of the availability of the transportation service for non-ambulatory or handicapped patients which does not state in clear, express terms that the vehicle is not equipped to supply emergency service as an ambulance; and

(e) Other acts that the Mayor may designate.

509.3 The Mayor shall establish rules to ensure that ambulances and ambulance personnel based outside of the District, but receiving patients within the District for transport to a location within the District, shall meet the substantive standards of §§ 502 through 504 of this chapter.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-510. RECIPROCITY POLICY FOR PARAMEDICS.

510.1 The D.C. Department of Human Services, upon the recommendation of the Medical Review Board, may grant a temporary certificate to anyone possessing a current valid Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate Paramedic (EMT-IP) or Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic (EMT-P) card issued by any state or United States territory.

510.2 The temporary certificate issued under § 510.1 shall be effective for no longer than ninety (90) days.

510.3 Upon verification from the sponsoring state office that issues certificates that the individual has completed the required amount of training for EMT-IP or EMT-P, the Department of Human Services, with the recommendation of the Medical Review Board, may fully certify an individual to operate as an Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate Paramedic or Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic in the District.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-511. FEES.

511.1 The Department of Health shall collect the following fees for certifying, recertifying, granting reciprocity or extensions, re-testing, or issuing replacement certification cards to emergency medical technicians:

(a) Application fee - \$ 15

(b) Initial certification fee - \$ 30

CDCR 29-511

- (c) Recertification fee - \$ 30
- (d) Reciprocity certification fee - \$ 40
- (e) Re-testing fee - \$ 15
- (f) Extensions of certification - \$ 10
- (g) Replacement cards - \$ 10
- (h) Temporary cards - \$ 10

511.2 The Department of Health shall collect the following fees for certifying, recertifying, granting reciprocity or extensions, or issuing replacement cards to paramedics:

- (a) Application fee - \$ 25
- (b) Initial certification fee - \$ 50
- (c) Recertification fee - \$ 30
- (d) Reciprocity certification fee - \$ 55
- (e) Extensions of certification - \$ 15
- (f) Replacement cards - \$ 10
- (g) Temporary cards - \$ 10

511.3 The Department of Health shall collect the following fees for inspecting and licensing ambulances, including inspecting both Basic Life Support ambulances and Advanced Life Support ambulances:

- (a) Advanced Life Support ambulances - \$ 600
- (b) Basic Life Support ambulances - \$ 400
- (c) Reinspection of ambulances - \$ 50

511.4 The Department of Health shall collect the following fees for certifying Emergency Medical Service instructors:

- (a) Application fee - \$ 5
- (b) Initial certification fee - \$ 15
- (c) Recertification fee - \$ 15

511.5 The Department of Health shall collect the following fees for approving the curriculum of emergency medical services training programs:

- (a) Application fee - \$ 100
- (b) Initial certification fee - \$ 150
- (c) Recertification fee - \$ 100

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

December 4, 1998 511 to 511.5 new at 45 DCR 8542 by the Department of Health

29-512-519. [RESERVED]

29-520. EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

520.1 The purpose of the Emergency Ambulance Service is to provide a twenty-four (24) hour citywide emergency ambulance service for the District of Columbia through the cooperation of the various hospitals and District government agencies.

520.2 The Emergency Ambulance Service shall be restricted to emergency cases and shall not include transportation of non-emergency cases.

520.3 Fire Department ambulances, when not on fire duty, may be dispatched in the Emergency Ambulance Service.

520.4 Fire Department rescue squads shall handle all cases requiring the service of trained experts, such as removing persons who may be trapped or those cases requiring mechanical skills or equipment.

520.5 Insofar as possible, the dispatcher shall call the ambulance that is nearest to the emergency.

520.6 Any ambulance in the District may transport communicable disease cases.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-521. PARTICIPATING HOSPITALS.

521.1 In accordance with their contractual agreements with the District, participating hospitals shall agree to provide at least one (1) ambulance on a twenty-four (24) hour basis subject to the full control of the central dispatching agency located at Fire Department Communication Division.

521.2 The Emergency Ambulance Service shall not interfere with a hospital's prerogative to dispatch its emergency ambulance, but when the dispatch is made, it must be reported immediately to the central dispatcher's office, giving essential details of the contemplated run to the dispatcher.

521.3 Each ambulance driver, when reporting for duty, shall notify the central dispatcher at once over the direct line, giving his or her name, agency, and ambulance number.

521.4 Ambulance drivers shall not question the directions of the dispatching operator, but shall respond at once to his or her orders. This means that the orders shall be carried out, and any complaints shall be made at a later date if the driver feels that the orders were arbitrary or unreasonable.

521.5 In all cases where ambulances have been dispatched, they shall complete their assignment to the best of their ability.

521.6 The Emergency Ambulance Service shall notify the person in charge of a cooperating agency of any misconduct or failure by any driver to follow instructions. This shall be done by a written report of the Duty Officer.

521.7 The various hospitals and other services shall agree to issue orders to their personnel that will make it mandatory for them to carry out, with dispatch and accuracy, all orders received from control headquarters.

521.8 All emergency ambulance calls shall be recorded, dated, and timed, as follows:

- (a) The dispatcher shall enter on his dispatch sheet the name of the person calling;
- (b) The ambulance, upon completion of an emergency call, shall report "in service" by radio; and
- (c) Immediately upon return to its headquarters, an ambulance shall give a complete detailed report to the dispatcher.

521.9 In addition to complete coverage for ambulance service on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, the hospitals also agree to maintain a twenty-four (24) hour watch on the direct line telephone to the central dispatcher's office.

521.10 Telephone requests for doctors to respond for sick calls which do not require ambulance service, or are not in the category of an Emergency Ambulance Service call, will be routed as follows:

- (a) Non-indigent - to the District Medical Bureau;
- (b) Indigent - to the nearest Police Precinct for a district physician; or
- (c) Questionable - calls of a questionable nature shall be given to police scout cars for investigation and report.

521.11 If a call warrants hospitalization, the Emergency Ambulance Service shall, upon request of police investigators, respond immediately.

521.12 In all cases of questionable character not covered under this section, the Duty Officer shall use his or her independent judgment, bearing in mind that the important thing is to see that the call is completed with a minimum of delay and that the proper service is rendered.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-522. TRANSPORTATION OF EMERGENCY PATIENTS.

522.1 A patient picked up by a private hospital ambulance of the Emergency Ambulance Service shall be taken to the hospital concerned unless a parent or near relative at the scene of the emergency call requests that the patient be taken to a specific hospital, and at that time, assumes responsibility and signs the form provided by the Emergency Ambulance Service.

522.2 A patient picked up by a Fire Department or other District agency ambulance of the Emergency Ambulance Service shall be taken to the participating hospital nearest the emergency call unless, the individual (if adult), parent, or near relative at the scene of the emergency call requests that the patient be taken to a specific hospital, and at that time, assumes responsibility and signs the form provided by the Emergency Ambulance Service.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-523. DISTRICT AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES INJURED ON DUTY.

523.1 In cases of injury requiring ambulance service to any District or federal employee while on duty, an ambulance shall be dispatched.

523.2 Hospital admittance slips which have been furnished to all department heads and which are carried on the ambulances, shall be filled out.

523.3 The provisions of §§ 523.1 and 523.2 shall apply to employees injured on District property outside of the District, but shall not apply to firemen and policemen.

523.4 The provisions of this section shall cover only those cases deemed emergencies in connection with accidents to government employees, and ambulances of the District government shall only be called in emergency cases to transport government employees from government buildings or government property in the metropolitan area.

523.5 Service to federal employees shall not include either of the following:

- (a) Transportation of federal employees from hospitals to their homes; or
- (b) Transportation of federal employees from their homes to hospitals.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-524. [RESERVED]

29-525. FEES AND BILLING.

525.1 The following fees are hereby established for emergency ambulance life support service, and for the transportation of a person in a District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department emergency ambulance vehicle:

(a) Basic Life Support (BLS) Unit Transportation Fee: A fee of five hundred thirty dollars (\$ 530) shall be charged for the transportation of each person in any ambulance staffed by an Emergency Medical Technician, an Emergency Medical Technician/Driver or a Paramedic who administers basic life support to the person or persons being transported;

(b) Advanced Life Support (ALS) Unit Transportation Fee: A fee of eight hundred thirty two dollars (\$ 832) shall be charged for the transportation of each person in any ambulance staffed by Paramedics if advanced life support is actually administered, by such Paramedics, to the person being transported;

(c) Advanced Life Support-Level 2 (ALS2) Unit Transportation Fee: A fee of nine hundred fifty three dollars (\$ 953) shall be charged for the transportation of each person by ground ambulance vehicle requiring the provision of medically necessary supplies and services including (1) at least three separate administrations of one or more medications by intravenous push/bolus or by continuous infusion (excluding crystalloid fluids) or (2) ground ambulance transport, medically necessary supplies and services, and the provision of at least one of the ALS2 procedures listed below:

1. Manual defibrillation/cardioversion;
2. Endotracheal intubation;
3. Central venous line;
4. Cardiac pacing;
5. Chest decompression;
6. Surgical airway; or
7. Intraosseous line; and

(d) Total Mileage Transportation Fee: A fee of six dollars and six cents (\$ 6.06) per mile traveled, or any fraction thereof, shall be charged to each patient transported in any of the above noted methods.

525.2 Any person transported in a Department emergency ambulance vehicle, or that person's legal guardian or duly authorized representative (collectively referred to in this section as the "person") shall be responsible for payment of the fee in effect for the service except as follows:

(a) The Department shall accept assignment of any Medicare or Medicaid related benefits which may cover in whole or in part the costs of necessary emergency ambulance transportation;

(b) The Department shall bill Medicaid for the services provided by the Department to anyone enrolled in the Medicaid program; and

(c) The Department shall not bill, nor hold responsible, anyone enrolled in the D.C. Medical Charities program.

525.3 Any person transported shall remain personally liable for any fee or portion of a fee not covered by any of the entities listed in § 525.3.

525.4 In no event shall any person be denied emergency ambulance service because of inability to pay, nor shall any person be questioned about the ability to pay at the time service is requested.

525.5 The Department, through its duly authorized representative, shall attempt to obtain from each person transported by a Department emergency ambulance vehicle sufficient information to enable the Department to bill that person for the transportation provided. This information may include, but shall not be limited to, the following information about the person:

- (a) Name;
- (b) Address;
- (c) Date of birth;
- (d) Sex; and
- (e) If applicable, the person's Medicare, Medicaid, or D.C. Medical Charities identification number.

525.6 Billings shall be by mail to the person transported.

525.7 Department employees operating emergency ambulance vehicles shall not be permitted to accept payment of any fee, or any portion of any fee, from any person.

525.8 The person transported shall complete the billing form received by mail and return it to the Department in the envelope provided, together with full payment or with a valid Medicare identification number and assignment of benefits or with a valid Medicaid or D.C. Medical Charities identification number.

525.9 Checks or money orders shall be made payable to the order of the "D.C. Treasurer." Payment may be also made in person to any District Treasury cashier.

525.10 The Department shall not direct a bill to any insurance carrier or third party other than Medicare, Medicaid, or D.C. Medical Charities.

525.11 Whenever any person has paid a fee for transportation in a Department emergency ambulance vehicle and is entitled to reimbursement of that payment by an insurance carrier or other party, the reimbursement shall be a matter to be resolved between that person and the carrier or party.

525.12 If the person responsible for payment of the fee has not fulfilled his or her obligations as set forth in this section after receiving the initial billing and two (2) subsequent notices at least thirty (30) days apart, the Fire Chief, or his or her duly authorized representative, may, at his or her discretion, request the Office of the Corporation Counsel to undertake legal proceedings to collect the unpaid portion of any fee.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

April 18, 2008 525.1 amended at 55 DCR 4373 by the Office of the Mayor

December 20, 2002 525.1 amended at 49 DCR 11562 by the Executive Office of the Mayor

December 6, 1996 525.1 amended at 43 DCR 6441 by the Office of the Mayor

July 19, 1991 525.1 amended at 38 DCR 4445 by the Office of the Mayor

29-526-529. [RESERVED]

29-530. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OF PATIENTS.

530.1 The Department of Human Services (also referred to in this chapter as the "Department") may issue bus tokens to patients for transportation to or from the Department's treatment facilities.

530.2 Issuance of bus tokens shall be limited to those patients who would otherwise be unable to pay for transportation.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None

29-599. DEFINITIONS.

599.1 As used in this regulation, unless otherwise specified, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

Ambulance - any privately or publicly owned vehicle specially designed, constructed, modified, or equipped for use as a means for transporting persons in an emergency; or any privately or publicly owned vehicle that is advertised, marked, or in any way held out as a vehicle for the transportation of persons in an emergency.

Emergency - the existence of circumstances in which the element of time in transporting a person or persons who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise incapacitated or helpless to medical or surgical treatment is essential to the health or life of that person, and in which rescue operations or competent first aid or both may be essential to the health or life of that person.

Emergency medical technician - a person who possesses a valid emergency medical technician's certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.

Emergency medical technician/driver - a person certified or licensed as an emergency medical technician who is also licensed by the Public Service Commission pursuant to Title 18 DCMR to drive an ambulance; Provided, that an emergency medical technician, employed in that capacity by the District Fire Department, shall be deemed to be an emergency medical technician/driver during the course of his or her employment if he or she is eligible to drive a Fire Department ambulance under the applicable regulations and procedures of the Fire Department.

Emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic - a person who possesses a valid emergency medical technician/intermediate paramedic certificate issued pursuant to the requirements of this chapter.

Emergency medical technician/paramedic - a person who possesses a valid emergency medical technician/paramedic's certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.

Mayor - the Mayor of the District of Columbia, or his or her designated agent.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: *D.C. Code § 5-416*; Mayor's Orders 97-42, 2008-44

History of Regulations since Last Compilation (May 1987):

None