Title: Drivers Criteria

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RESCINDS: 03-10 Drivers Criteria

PREVOIUSLY KNOWN AS: 15-02

SCOPE: The safe operation of District vehicles, particularly during emergency response, depends on the ability and skill of the driver.

PURPOSE: Emergency vehicles are on**e** of the most important assets that North Whidbey Fire and Rescue has. We should select and utilize only the best drivers. Selecting, training and maintaining good, safe drivers should not be left to chance.

CONTENT

Knowing the drivers' on and off duty driving habits and records is an important tool in both selecting and maintaining the safest drivers for NWF&R emergency vehicles.

1. General Standards

1.1. North Whidbey Fire & Rescue will conduct Drivers Abstracts on all members on an annual basis.

1.1.1 All members of North Whidbey Fire and Rescue will provide Administration with an up to date insurance card.

1.2. North Whidbey Fire & Rescue will use the following criteria when evaluating personnel for driving North Whidbey Fire and Rescue emergency apparatus.

1.2.1 NO firefighter under 21 years of age shall drive a Department vehicle under emergency conditions unless authorized by the Chief of the Department or authorized designee.

1.2.2. Eight (8) hours of classroom training for all new emergency driving candidates. Periodic classroom training for experienced operators should also be performed at the discretion of the chief operating officer.

1.2.3. New candidates should have sufficient "hands-on" training to effectively demonstrate their capability of handling emergency vehicles necessary to perform their duties. Experienced drivers should receive annual retraining based upon their actual "hands-on" emergency vehicle driving activity. The amount of training is to be determined by the Chief or his designees.

1.2.4. Meet the requirements of a training program established by North Whidbey Fire and Rescue. The training program should include but not be limited to the following: preventive maintenance, record keeping, legal requirements, defensive driving and unusual circumstances driving. Specific training of vehicle functions – such as vehicle systems, pumps, tanks, etc. should be included as determined by North Whidbey Fire and Rescue.

1.2.5. A Department of Motor Vehicles check should be done on every member upon initial entry into the organization and annually thereafter. This report should reflect not more than two (2) Class B violations and no Class A violations in a three- (3) year period.

1.2.6. The North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's driver-training program will be based upon current recognized safety standards and policies as well as the manufacturer's suggested procedures.

1.2.7. NO firefighter may drive any Department vehicle without a valid driver's license on their person.

1.2.8. All drivers of apparatus responding to emergencies (red lights and sirens activated) shall have completed:

1.2.8.1. Washington State Fire Service Training Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention (EVIP) Course or recognized equivalent.

1.2.8.2. Drivers' re-evaluation to be every two years, include re-certifying EVIP

1.2.8.3. Individual Fire Department driver training as required.

2. Physical Condition of Driver

2.1. Fire Department drivers shall not be subject to, or have a past history of: (unless driver has a medical release from a medical professional)

2.1.1. Heart attacks

2.1.2. Strokes

2.1.3. Fainting

2.1.4. Seizures

2.1.5. Sudden onset sickness or disease unless cleared by a medical authority.

2.1.6. Under the influence of alcohol

2.1.7. Under the influence of drugs - prescription or otherwise

3. Type A Violation

3.1. An individual who has a Type A violation within the past three years will have their driving privileges suspended for a period of 18 months. In addition to any of these, individuals will be required to attend the entire EVIP class, Rodeo and be evaluated on the Road Course. Type A violations include:

3.1.1. Driving while intoxicated

3.1.2. Aggravated assault with a motor vehicle

3.1.3. Driving under the influence of drugs.

3.1.4. Operating a motor vehicle without the owner's authority

3.1.5. Negligent homicide arising out of the use of a motor vehicle

3.1.6. Permitting an unlicensed person to drive

3.1.7. Operating during a period of suspension or revocation

3.1.8. Reckless driving.

3.1.9. Hit and run driving

3.1.10. Using a motor vehicle for the commission of a felony.

4. Type B Violation

4.1. Any individual who has a combination of (2) two Type B moving violation convictions and/or chargeable accidents in a three-year period will be issued a warning letter from the Chief.

4.2. Any individual who has a combination of three moving violation convictions or three chargeable accidents in a three-year period will be issued a suspension of driving department vehicles for a period of ninety days **4.3.** Any individual who has more than three moving violations or three chargeable accidents in a three year or any combination of more than three of the formerly stated violations in a three-year period will be issued a suspension of driving department vehicles for a period of one year. In addition, the individual will be required to complete a driver's improvement program and recertify with North Whidbey Fire and Rescue.

4.4. Type B Violations include:

4.4.1. All moving violations are not listed as type A violations. (Exceeding the posted speed limit is a type B violation).