

## **Disabled Ambulance Procedure**

### Procedure for Emergency Road Triangles:

1. Any time a River Falls Ambulance vehicle is disabled on the roadway, the 3 road triangles must be used as follows:

#### **On a straight highway:** *(usually 2 lanes)*

- A. 1 triangle 100 feet (40 paces) in front of the disabled vehicle
- B. 1 triangle immediately behind the disabled vehicle
- C. 1 triangle 100 feet (40 paces) behind the disabled vehicle

#### **On a divided Highway:** *(usually 4 lanes or a freeway)*

- A. 1 triangle immediately behind the disabled vehicle
- B. 1 triangle 100 feet (40 paces) behind the disabled vehicle
- C. 1 triangle 200 feet (80 paces) behind the disabled vehicle

### Procedure when Patients are on Board:

1. If a mechanical failure during the transport of a patient renders the ambulance unable to proceed in a safe and timely manner, the driver shall have the appropriate dispatch center dispatch another ambulance to the location of failure for purposes of completing the transport. The highest trained River Falls EMT must accompany the patient to the hospital in the event another service transports, especially if it is an ALS transport and the assisting ambulance is only BLS.
2. The driver of the failed ambulance shall contact the dispatch center for a non-preference wrecker. The ambulance shall be towed back to the River Falls City Garage. An incident report shall be completed and submitted to an officer of the service within 12 hours from the incident.
3. If a mechanical failure occurs during a transport, but does not interfere with its safe completion, the failure should be assessed after completion of said transport and a determination should be made regarding the return of the vehicle to service. An incident report shall be completed and submitted to an officer of the service within 12 hours from the incident.
4. In the event a River Falls Ambulance is involved in a collision while transporting a patient, the ambulance may not proceed to the hospital. At such time, a crew member shall notify the appropriate dispatch center of the incident and its location, as well as any injuries caused as a result of the incident so that additional help may be dispatched. RF EMS personnel are to administer emergency care to all persons in need, but one EMT must remain with the initial patient at all times. An incident report shall be submitted to the Director or an Assistant Director of the service within 12 hours of the incident.

Procedure with no Patients on Board:

1. If a mechanical failure disables the responding ambulance during an emergency response, the crew should notify dispatch immediately. At the discretion of the crew, they may remove essential equipment from the vehicle and respond on foot or request a police vehicle to take you to the scene. The crew shall request another ambulance be dispatched for the call. An incident report shall be completed and submitted to an officer of the service within 12 hours from the incident.
2. In the event a River Falls Ambulance is involved in a collision while performing an emergency response to a scene, the crew must terminate the response and notify the dispatch center so that another ambulance may be dispatched to the location of the original call. The crew must also give the location of the collision and notify dispatch of any injuries. Uninjured EMS personnel may administer emergency care to all in need.
3. If while neither transporting a patient, nor performing an emergency response, RF EMS personnel discover a mechanical failure with any ambulance, they shall inform the Director or an Assistant Director of the service immediately. If the person judges the vehicle incapable of safe and effective operations, the RF EMS vehicle shall be removed from service until appropriate repairs are completed. If the vehicle is removed from service, the Director shall be notified immediately after the decision is made.

Procedure for Fire, Theft or Vandalism:

1. Any incident of fire or theft affecting any River Falls Ambulance vehicle shall be reported in writing to the Director or an Assistant Director of the service within 12 hours of the incident. The crew shall also contact the appropriate police department to file a police report.
2. If any crewmember should discover any type of vandalism to any River Falls Ambulance vehicle, the incident shall be reported to dispatch and request a police officer be dispatched to the location to file a police report. The incident shall also be reported in writing to the Director or an Assistant Director of the service within 12 hours from the incident.

Procedure for Damage to Property:

1. In all cases of motor vehicle collision in which any River Falls Ambulance vehicle, another vehicle, or any property is damaged, the crew must call the appropriate police department to file a police report. The crew shall also submit a written report to the Director or an Assistant Director of the service within 12 hours from the incident.