

Big Tree Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Standard Operating Guideline

Reporting Suspected Criminal Activity

Revised October 8, 2002

Purpose:

Firefighters and EMS providers traditionally have been held in high esteem by the general public. This level of trust and respect has been the result of a long history of responsible trustworthy activity by EMS providers. It is important that EMS attempts to maintain this favorable image. To this end, any criminal activity on the part of an EMS provider must not be tolerated. This standard operating guideline has been developed to outline the procedures to follow in the event that an EMS provider is suspected to be involved in criminal activity while functioning as a member of the Big Tree Volunteer Fire Company.

Policy:

Any member who suspects that an EMS provider or firefighter has committed a criminal event shall immediately report his/her suspicions to the Chief. The Chief shall initiate an investigation and contact the appropriate law enforcement agency. The member who is suspected of committing the crime shall immediately be prohibited from performing his/her EMS and firefighting duties pending the results of an investigation. This suspension shall remain in effect until such time that the charges are cleared or disciplinary actions have been rendered by the company investigating committee and/or the local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction. Any member witnessing such criminal activity shall make a written report outlining the specifics of the situation at hand. This report shall be given to the Chief to aid in his/her investigation.