

Big Tree Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Standard Operating Guideline

Reporting Suspected Patient Abuse

Revised October 5, 2002

Purpose:

Patient abuse (by EMS providers) is a serious crime that should never be tolerated. This guideline outlines the steps EMS providers shall follow when they witness an episode of patient abuse.

Policy:

It shall be the policy of the Big Tree Volunteer Fire Company to report all instances of patient abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Additionally, the Chief of the Big Tree Volunteer Fire Company shall also be immediately notified as well as the New York State Department of Health Area Representative and the agency Medical Director.

If the patient abuse results in any harm to the patient, he/she shall receive prompt treatment as required and all pertinent information shall be documented on the New York State Prehospital Care Report (PCR).

Any EMS provider who abuses a patient either verbally or physically, shall immediately be suspended from performing patient care activities pending the outcome of internal and external investigations.