

The Board acknowledges its mandated duty to protect person and property within the District. The Board further recognizes, in performance of its charge, that it must undertake same in a reasonable and prudent manner so as not to risk the health and safety of the public at large, the providers of the service and property of the taxpayer.

Entrusted with the above set forth duties and responsibilities the Board recognizes that the operation of a motor vehicle in an imprudent or unreasonable manner may result in life and property threatening situations. Furthermore, operators of District leased or owned apparatus and vehicles have in their care, custody and control the means of delivering the service for which the District was formed.

The safe operation of fire service vehicles and apparatus, particularly during emergency response, depends largely on the training and ability of the operator and safety and maintenance guidelines.

The Board through this Policy shall develop and maintain a comprehensive emergency apparatus and vehicle operation program to address, at a minimum, the following areas to qualified personnel with at least three (3) years driving experience between twenty-one (21) and seventy (70) years of age:

- Selection criteria for drivers/operators
- Training requirements
- Restrictions on drivers/operators
- Disciplinary procedures for driving violations and/or violations of this policy or implementation procedures
- Written emergency apparatus and vehicle safety guidelines
- Documented preventative maintenance program
- Accident investigation program
- Medical evaluations

At the discretion of the Chief of Department or his/her designee, a member seventy (70) years of age or older may drive an apparatus during non-emergencies such as parades, funerals, etc. Member requests shall be submitted in writing to the Chief for approval and all Chief responses to the member (approvals or denials) shall also be in writing with a copy to the Fire Administrator or his/her designee.

The Board shall enact Rules and Regulations, procedures or guidelines and directives to implement or otherwise effectuate the purpose and intent of this Policy and Federal, State and local laws, and Rules, Regulations, Procedures, Guidelines or Directives promulgated thereto, as amended, which were enacted to insure or supplement the intent and purpose of this Policy. Said Rules and Regulations, procedures or guidelines and directives may be amended or supplemented by the Board as it deems necessary.

Legal References:

1st Reading: October 15, 2018

Effective Date: November 13, 2018

2nd Reading: November 12, 2018