



General Order

Department of Fire & EMS

G.O. 12-7-2023

Subject: EMS Chase Car and Medical Upgrades

Date: December 22, 2023

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Effective immediately, all EMS Chase Cars will be upgrading BLS transport units as dispatched by ECC. EMS Chase cars are not to request an ALS transport unit to the scene unless a second transport unit is required, or additional ALS personnel are needed to assist with patient care.

Effective on or about January 1, 2024, ECC will be dispatching the closest ALS transport unit to all ALS calls. The EMS chase car will also be dispatched when they are the closest ALS resource and will be providing ALS care and transitioning the patient to the ALS transport unit that arrives on location. If the EMS chase car determines that the patient needs to be transported prior to the arrival of the ALS transport unit and a BLS transport unit is on location, the EMS chase car medic will upgrade the BLS unit to allow for immediate transport and place the ALS transport unit in service. Additionally, EMS chase cars will be dispatched on all predetermined ALS calls in which it has been decided an additional paramedic may be needed.

As the system in Carroll County continues to develop, our EMS chase cars will be approved to provide the highest level of care such as Ketamine, ultrasound, and eventually a Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) program. The ability for our EMS chase cars to quickly deploy in their assigned geographical region is essential to providing the highest level of ALS care to our citizens. In addition, our EMS chase cars will remain an in county resource unless specifically requested by a Carroll County unit to respond into another jurisdiction to assist them with the care of their patient.

Example 1: ALS call dispatched in Winfield and 149 is BLS. ECC will dispatch A-149, M-129, and EMS 103. EMS 103 will respond and provide ALS care and transition the patient to M-129 if an immediate upgrade is not needed.

Example 2: An ALS call is dispatched in Harney and FR11, A-59, EMS 102, M-89 are dispatched. EMS 102 arrives on location and determines that the patient is priority 1 and immediate transport is required. EMS 102 will upgrade A-59, place M-89 in service and transport.