



# Carroll County Department of Fire and EMS

## EMS Policies and Procedures

<b>Standard Operating Procedure: 3.04</b>	<b>Effective Date: June 8, 2023</b>
<b>Subject: EMS Sentinel Event Notification</b>	<b>Section: EMS Operations</b>
<b>Authorized: Michael Stoner, Assistant Chief</b>	<b>Revision Date: N/A</b>

### I. PURPOSE

Timely notifications to EMS Operations, Medical Director, and the Director/ Chief of Department of Fire and EMS of events that could lead to significant change in a patient's status and when low frequency /high acuity interventions are performed.

### II. DEFINITIONS

A. Sentinel Event: a patient safety event that results in death, permanent harm, or severe temporary harm. Sentinel events are debilitating to both patients and health care providers involved in the event.

### II. PROCEDURES

A. Items that require notification to Assistant Chief of EMS at completion of incident.

1. Significant deviation from Department Policy or Procedures
  2. Medication error or protocol violation
  3. Any injury sustained to patient or clinician during transport
  4. Surgical Airways
  5. Needle Chest Decompression
  6. Rapid Sequence Intubation
  7. Bloodborne / Airborne Pathogen Exposure
  8. Other procedures determined by the Assistant Chief of EMS or Medical Director
- B. Provider shall notify the Shift Commander through the chain of command
- C. Shift Commander shall notify the Assistant Chief of EMS through email or phone conversation with important details and follow up with documentation of details in writing.
- D. Assistant Chief of EMS shall notify the Medical Director, Director/Fire Chief, or other necessary personnel of incident or procedure.
- E. Assistant Chief of EMS shall also make notification to MIEMSS, Hospitals, or other regulatory agencies as needed.

- F. Sentinel events that can used for training shall have the following completed
  - a. Review of the call
  - b. Review of documentation
  - c. Feedback from receiving hospital
  - d. Any additional information to provide educational program.

IV. RECISION

This Standard Operating Procedure rescinds all directives regarding EMS Sentinel Event Notification or similar content previously issued for personnel of the Carroll County Department of Fire and EMS.