

April 8, 2010

**CITY OF FERGUSON  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE****Index as:**

Ambulance

Death Notification

EMS Ambulance

Medical Examiner Notifications

Transportation, Sick or Injured

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**TRANSPORTING SICK OR INJURED PERSONS AND DEATH NOTIFICATIONS****404.00 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this General Order is to establish procedures for transporting sick or injured persons in emergency situations by Department personnel and guidance for making emergency and death notifications when required. Notifications for Ferguson Police personnel are outlined in GO 205.

**404.01 EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION OF SICK OR INJURED PERSONS**

When an ill or injured person must be transported to a hospital, the following guidelines are provided:

- A. EMS personnel will be requested for all sick and injury cases.
- B. Providing escorts for ill or injured persons who are passengers in private civilian vehicles is prohibited.
- C. Private civilian vehicles will be prohibited from following the ambulance or police vehicle in an escort type situation. If the driver of the vehicle so desires he may accompany the ill or injured person in the EMS ambulance or police vehicle.

**404.02 EMERGENCY AND DEATH NOTIFICATIONS**

- A. Emergency or Next-of-Kin Messages
  - 1. This department will respond to requests from hospitals and other government agencies to deliver emergency messages pertaining to a death, serious injury, or serious illness. Other emergency notification requests may be handled at the discretion of the watch commander.
  - 2. Notifying next-of-kin in a case where there is a death, serious injury, and/or serious illness can place the officer in a delicate and uncomfortable situation. The following procedures should be utilized whenever possible and practical:
    - a. Dispatchers should obtain complete callback information to verify the legitimacy of the notification request, if necessary, and to provide

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pertinent information about the situation in order to assist the relative receiving the message.

- b. Notification should be made as promptly as possible.
- c. Although some injury or illness notifications can be made by telephone, all death notifications should be made in person. Two officers should be dispatched on death notifications.
- d. Upon making a death notification, the officers should offer assistance to the next-of-kin in contacting a relative, close friend, and/or minister.
- e. The person receiving notification should be advised of the appropriate names and phone numbers to contact for additional information (i.e.: the requesting hospital or law enforcement agency).

B. Medical Examiner

The medical examiner's office will be notified in all situations where an officer responds to a location where a death has occurred. The name of the victim, location, telephone number and any preliminary facts pertaining to the death will be given to the medical examiner or his designated investigator. (*Additional guidance is found in GO 433.02*)

By order of:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colonel Thomas Jackson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the text "By order of:".

Distribution

All Department Personnel

MPCCF Reference 22.7

COLONEL THOMAS JACKSON  
Chief of Police