

 	<u>Charles County Emergency Services</u>	
	Subject: Standard for Minimum Apparatus Staffing	SOG # 04-01-2013
	Approved: County Fire Chief, Mark Kaufman	Approved: February 2013
	Approved: County EMS Chief, Brent Huber	Initiated: February 2013
	Approved: Director of Emergency Services, Bill Stephens	Revised: February 2015

I. Purpose

- a. These guidelines are established to direct activities of Fire and EMS units while operating at Emergency and non-emergency incidents. Due to the infinite number of possible scenarios that may be encountered, these guidelines shall be used to assist with tracking the levels of qualified / non-qualified personnel and established a minimum standard for staffing of apparatus.

II. Acronyms

- MFRI: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
- IFSAC: International Fire Service Accreditation Congress
- MSFPQB: Maryland Fire Service Fire Personnel Qualification Board
- NFSPQB: National Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board
- FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency
- EMI: Emergency Management Institute
- NFA: National Fire Academy
- EMT-B: Emergency Medical Technician, Basic
- EMS: Emergency Medical Services
- MIEMSS: Maryland Institute For Emergency Medical Services Systems

III. Procedure

- a. On all responses, unit officers shall notify Charles County Communications of their staffing levels when “marking up”. (example: “Engine 11 responding with five (5)”
 1. For suppression apparatus, if any responder is not minimally certified to the Firefighter I level (MFRI,IFSAC,MSFPQB,FEMA,or NFPA), that responder will be considered “plus one (1)” when staffing is reported. (example: if Engine 11 has four (4) certified crew members, and one (1) non-certified crew member, the staffing report shall be “Engine 11 responding with four (4) plus (1)”.)
 2. For EMS apparatus, if any responder is not minimally certified to the EMT-Basic level (Licensed through MIEMSS only) that responder will be considered “plus one (1)” when staffing is reported. (example: if Ambulance 89 has 2 EMT-Basic crew members, and one (1) aide, the staffing report shall be “Ambulance 89 responding with two (2) plus one (1)”)
- b. Minimum Apparatus Staffing Requirements
 1. ***No minimum staffing standard exists of apparatus *not* listed below***

Minimum staffing of (3)
Engines
Rescue Engines
Minimum staffing of (4)
Trucks / Towers
Squads
Minimum staffing of (1)
Tankers
EMS Transport Units (non-DES)
Minimum staffing of (1) Medic and (1) EMT-B
DES Paramedic Ambulance

- c. Non-certified firefighters operating on an incident scene shall be identified with a yellow helmet with a red reflective stripe over the center crown.
- d. Units officers shall provide their staffing levels on the dispatch and operations channels.