

Policy Name: Exterior EMS Vehicle Markings Policy
Policy Number: 5.1.3-041613

PURPOSE: To ensure all licensed EMS vehicles are marked consistently and conspicuously to provide increased vehicle visibility and safety for EMS personnel and the citizens of WV.

POLICY: All WV licensed ground transport EMS vehicles shall be marked and readily discernible as an EMS vehicle according to the standards and rules provided and adopted by the WVOEMS.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

A. Reflective Striping:

1. A retro reflective stripe or combination of stripes shall be affixed to the ambulance in the following proportions:
 - a. Vehicle Front
 - i. A four inch (4") wide retro reflective stripe must be visible across 25% of the front of the vehicle. This stripe may contain the word "ambulance" in contrasting colors
 - b. Rear Chevron:
 - i. At least 50% of the rear-facing vertical surfaces shall be equipped with retro reflective striping in a chevron pattern sloping downward and away from the centerline of the vehicle at an angle of 45 degrees.
 - ii. Each stripe in the chevron shall be a single color alternating between red and either yellow, fluorescent yellow or fluorescent yellow-green.
 - iii. Each stripe shall be six inches (6") in width.
 - iv. If an alternate color is selected other than those listed, it will conform to all retro reflective requirements as listed for integral colored film.
 - c. Side Markings:
 - i. The stripe or combination of stripes shall be a minimum of four inches (4") in total vertical width.
 - ii. The four inch (4") wide stripe or combination of stripes can be interrupted by objects (i.e. receptacles, cracks between slats in roll up doors, etc.) provided the full stripe is conspicuous when approaching the vehicle.
 - iii. A graphic design is permitted to replace all or part of the required striping material for side markings if the design or combination thereof covers the same perimeter length(s).

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- d. Contour Edge Markings:
 - i. A two inch (2") wide vehicle side boundary contour or edge marking shall be visible to establish the vehicles size to approaching vehicles. The color of the contour markings may be the same color as the primary color of the ambulance
- e. Star of Life:
 - i. A twelve inch (12") "Star of Life"™ emblem shall appear on both sides and the rear of the vehicle.
- f. Vehicle Lettering:
 - i. An EMS vehicle may only be lettered with the terms "Paramedic", "Advance Life Support", "Critical Care Transport", or similar service-level designations when the vehicle is both equipped and staffed by appropriately certified EMS personnel.
 - ii. The public access emergency telephone number 9-1-1 shall be displayed on the ambulance. Specialized Multi Patient Medical Transport (SMPMT) and non-public access EMS vehicles may display a different number.

Special Note: All new vehicles will be defined as any vehicle new or used that has been added to an agencies fleet after the effective date of this policy.

Some of the standards and studies considered for this policy are located in KKK A 1822 standards (which may now be outdated), NFPA 1917 and FEMA Emergency Vehicle Visibility and Conspicuity Study. All of these standards have been considered with the intent to increase visibility and safety for EMS personnel and the general public.

Retro reflective Material Requirements:

All retro reflective material shall conform to the requirements of ASTM D 4956, *Standard Specification for Retro reflective Sheeting for Traffic Control*, Section 6.1.1 for Type I Sheeting.

All retro reflective materials that are colors not listed in ASTM D 4956, Section 6.1.1, shall have a minimum coefficient of retro reflective of 10 with observation angle of 032 degrees and entrance angle of -4 degrees.

Any printed or processed retro reflective film construction shall conform to the standards required of an integral colored film as specified in ASTM D 4956, Section 6.1.1.



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All aeromedical rotor/fixed wing vehicles are exempted from these requirements.

Effective date of issuance

APPLICABLE CODE AND RULE: WV CSR 64-48-5.1.k

Effective Date: April 1, 2013

Approved:

Mark Stuel