

EMS Line of Duty Death Information

What is a Line of Duty Death (LODD)?

A Line of Duty Death is considered to have occurred when:

1. An EMS provider dies while performing his/her duties or;
2. An EMS provider suffers a heart attack or stroke while on duty or not later than 24 hours after participating in a physical training exercise, such as vehicle rescue training, farm rescue training, etc. or;
3. An EMS provider, while responding to an emergency, is presumed to have died as a result of the performance of his duties.

If a Line of Duty Death occurs in my ambulance service, what should I do?

1. Notify the County Emergency Management Agency of the fatality, which will notify the Director of the Bureau of EMS. The Director will notify the appropriate resources, so that a Line of Duty Death support person can contact you to assist with details.
2. Advise the Coroner of the Line of Duty Death as a proper autopsy is beneficial in securing Line of Duty Death Benefits; the autopsy should follow the Firefighter Autopsy Protocol, developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Fire Administration (available via the LODD support person).
3. Appoint a Public Information Officer for your service.
4. Support the deceased's family with any immediate needs.
5. Secure the training records of the deceased.
6. Notify the municipality of the death, both the municipality of where the LODD occurred plus the municipality of the service.
7. If the death occurred while the EMS provider was on duty, have all EMS personnel involved make a written statement as to what happened (only facts).
8. Consider CISM resources for your personnel.

If I have questions on the proper procedures or need further assistance, is there anyone that can help me?

YES! PEHSC, the Bureau of EMS and the Regional EMS Councils have staff that are trained on how to assist you in the event of a Line of Duty Death.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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