

Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Training

600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety of District members and the public by establishing training and operational standards for all District-owned vehicles. This policy distinguishes between Primary Fire Apparatus (Engineer-level) and Support/Specialty Apparatus to ensure clear operational command and fiscal responsibility.

600.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Primary Fire Apparatus : Includes only the District's heavy pumping and aerial units: Ladder 171 (L171), Engine 172 (E172), and Engine 179 (E179).

Support and Specialty Apparatus : Includes all other District-owned emergency and utility assets, including but not limited to Brush Trucks, Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs), Marine Assets, and Support Vehicles.

600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Sanibel Fire and Rescue District that all members shall be trained on all District equipment to ensure maximum operational readiness. All members must possess a valid driver's license and complete an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC).

Training and assignment standards are categorized as follows:

- (a) **Primary Fire Apparatus** : Operation of these units is the primary responsibility of members holding the rank of Engineer or those designated as "Acting Engineer."
- (b) **Support and Specialty Apparatus** : Operation of these units is an essential job duty for all personnel. Any member who has demonstrated proficiency through District training may be assigned by the Incident Commander (IC) or Officer in Charge to operate these district assets.

600.3 PROCEDURES

To maintain a high state of readiness, the following training procedures apply to all members:

- **Universal Training Requirement:** All members shall participate in regular, mandatory training and proficiency drills on both Primary and Support apparatus.
- **Operational Assignment:** While daily operation of Primary Apparatus is reserved for the Engineer/Acting Engineer working class, the Incident Commander (IC) or Officer in Charge retains full authority to assign any qualified member to operate any district asset based on the needs of the incident.

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- **Competency Validation:** The Training Division shall maintain accurate and detailed records for all training on Primary and Support Apparatus.

600.4 OPERATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the responsibility of the Deputy Chief to ensure that:

- (a) All members receive appropriate training for both Primary and Support / Specialty vehicles.
- (b) Detailed and accurate training records are maintained.
- (c) All members maintain a valid driver's license in accordance with the District's Driver License Requirements Policy.