



Automated External Defibrillator Policy

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the possession and use of the Physio-Control Lifepak 500 Automated External Defibrillator (A.E.D.) and set forth criteria regarding response to the below medical emergencies by personnel of the Ridgely Police Department.

1. Cardiac/respiratory arrest
2. Unconscious person - breathing not verified by a second party
3. Convulsions/seizures - person 35 years of age or older considered in cardiac arrest Breathing can be verified by second party.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Ridgely Police Department to maintain a high quality A.E.D. program. The Chief of Police will designate an A.E.D. coordinator for the program. The Ridgely Police Department has one Physio-Control Lifepak 500 Automated External Defibrillator and each patrol vehicle has a medical bag assigned to the Department. When the A.E.D. and medical bags are not in the patrol vehicles, they will be stored in the Patrol room on the filing cabinets. Only Officers certified as a First Responder by the State of Maryland and have received CPR and A.E.D. training will be in possession of an A.E.D. unit. It will be the responsibility of the Chief of Police to ensure each Officer has successfully completed the necessary training and is in possession of an A.E.D. unit and medical bag.

III. PROCEDURE

1. At the beginning of each tour of duty Officers assigned to a patrol area will respond to the Ridgely Police Department and obtain the A.E.D. If the A.E.D. is in the possession of an Officer that will be securing, it will be that Officer's responsibility to make arrangements with the Officer beginning his tour of duty to transfer the A.E.D. Under no circumstances will this procedure be delayed. It must be accomplished immediately. The A.E.D. will be inspected at the beginning of each tour of duty to ensure all necessary supplies are present. Whenever any medical supplies are used including the A.E.D. electrodes, it will be the responsibility of the Officer using the supplies to contact the Caroline County Department of Advanced Life Support for replacement of the used supplies.

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2. It will be the responsibility of each Officer that is assigned a patrol area to advise the Emergency Communications Center when in possession of an A.E.D. The dispatcher will indicate this information on the Caroline County Police status sheet.
3. Whenever the Caroline County Emergency Communications Center receives a call for assistance involving a possible cardiac arrest the (center) will immediately notify the closest Officer. The Officer will immediately respond with an A.E.D. and take appropriate action. In addition, if an Officer is on scene or receives a report direct of a cardiac arrest said Officer shall notify the Communication Center of the incident and its location and request the assistance of Emergency Medical Services. In no event will members of the Ridgely Police Department delay response and the proper A.E.D. service.
4. Whenever personnel of the Ridgely Police Department are responding to a possible cardiac arrest incident, all personnel will adhere to General Order # 14 - Vehicle Operation.
5. When arriving at the scene the Officer will assess the surrounding area for personal safety and park the patrol vehicle in a location that will not hinder the arrival of the ambulance.
6. The on scene patient care authority will be given to the Advanced Life Support or ambulance personnel upon their arrival. The Ridgely Police Department personnel will assist these departments.
7. Personnel that responds to a medical emergency and the A.E.D. is utilized, will submit an Incident report and a Maryland EMS Automated External Defibrillator Data Collection Form to the Chief of Police, prior to securing from their tour of duty.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The A.E.D. Coordinator will be responsible for the following:
 - A. Insuring all personnel are trained in A.E.D. and CPR, and are Maryland State Certified as 1st Responder. This is the minimum requirement acceptable.
 - B. Maintaining A.E.D. Files.
 - C. Maintenance of the A.E.D.'s and medical bags to insure they are operational and complete.
 - D. Insure all personnel are properly trained to meet the requirements set forth in this General Order.
2. The Supervisor will be responsible for the following:
 - A. Insure that all personnel assigned to their duty shift are currently certified in CPR and A.E.D. trained.
 - B. Insure the A.E.D.'s are checked and assigned to designated areas, and that Communications is notified.

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- C. Insure the proper reports are filed prior to the end of the shift in the event the A.E.D. was utilized.
3. Officers will be responsible for the following:
- A. Have an A.E.D. and medical bag in their possession while on duty, providing they are currently certified.
 - B. Insure their training on the A.E.D., CPR and First Aid are current.