

# *Augusta County Emergency Services Officers Association*

*Augusta County Government Center  
P.O. Box 590 – 18 Government Center Lane  
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## *Fire-EMS*

### *Standard Operating Guideline*

<b>Section:</b>	<b>4 Fire Operational Information</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Response to Vehicular Accidents</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>August, 2008 (Revised September 2013)</b>

### **RESPONSE TO VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS**

1. Emergency vehicles shall approach the site with extreme caution and observe the area for victims, spectators, other vehicles, debris and fuel spillage. Be on the lookout for directions from a police officer.
2. Position fire apparatus uphill and 75-100 feet away whenever possible, and make every effort to keep traffic lanes open with regards to the safety of emergency personnel. This distance shall increase to 150 feet if the incident involves a known hazardous material. Rescue vehicles to park within a safe area.
3. EMS agencies are to conduct patient assessment and provide necessary and proper treatment.
4. Keep the equipment response to a minimum. If additional apparatus responds for manpower and standby, stay back or out of the way whenever possible.
5. Keep private vehicles to a minimum and park them off the roadway to one side so they do not interfere at the site or with flow of traffic.
6. All emergency personnel on the scene shall wear protective clothing when involved with fire suppression or vehicle extrication. ANSI Class III Safety Vests shall be worn in accordance with Federal mandates at all times when operating on the highway with the exception of when structural gear is worn and wearing the safety vest will prohibit safe operations.
7. Do not remove debris from road or area until the investigating officer has completed the investigation, unless it is creating a hazard. The officer shall be advised of what was removed and the location. If the fire officer determines there is a hazardous condition, advise the investigating officer.

8. It is the responsibility of the State Police to call for wreckers to remove the vehicles. Wrecker operators are responsible for clearing debris from the incident. (possibly add about individual request for wrecker from owner of vehicle)
9. Return unnecessary personnel and vehicles as soon as possible.
10. ECC will notify State Police immediately after dispatching fire and rescue. ECC will advise Trooper enroute and give ETA when known (please do not call ECC asking if State Police have been notified or ask for an ETA)
11. If the incident is a non-injury accident blocking a roadway, and if the vehicles can be driven, Virginia Law allows the vehicles to be moved to a safe location while waiting for State Police.