

TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE AND RESCUE
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE
NUMBER 4.3

APPROVED: 12-28-01

SUBJECT: INFANTS LEFT AT FIRE STATIONS

PURPOSE: To define the actions needed to be taken if an infant is left at a Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue station.

POLICY: As of January 1, 2002, due to Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 597 Section 1 and Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 413 Division 0030 Section 0140-0165, individuals will now be able to leave an infant with medical personnel at facilities including fire stations. The stipulations are that the infant be left in the physical custody of medical personnel, be no more than 30 days old and that there be no evidence of physical abuse.

PROCEDURE

- I. If an infant is left, it must be left in the physical custody of a "medical professional," in other words they cannot be just left at the door.
- II. It must be ascertained that the infant is of the right age (30 days or younger) and there is no evidence of abuse. The parent leaving the infant is not required to provide any identifying information about the infant or the parent.
- III. The Duty Chief must be notified by the receiving company and the company taken out of service.
- IV. The State Office for Services to Children and Families must be notified within 24 hours that an infant has been left. The Washington County number is 503-648-8951, and the Tri-county after-hours emergency number is 503-731-3100. The Clackamas County numbers are 503-657-2112 or 503-657-6802, and the same Tri-county after-hours number above.
- V. A patient care report form should be filled out with as much information as possible. The parent is not "required" to give any identifying information regarding the infant or themselves, but as much information as possible should be gathered. Important information would be: birth date, feeding routines, illnesses, birth complications, weight gain or loss, prenatal care, full term or not, etc. A full primary and secondary assessment should be performed on the infant and documented on the patient care report.
- VI. The incident shall be documented using the EMS Unusual Event Report (form 5.12A), and forwarded to the EMS Chief. It is necessary to document the name/authority of the person(s) who picked up the infant from stations.

APPROVED:

JEFFREY D. JOHNSON
FIRE CHIEF