



DRIVER TRAINING SOG

SCOPE

This guideline applies to all members of the Stoney Point Fire Department and shall be adhered to by all members. This SOG addresses driver operator training on all Department apparatus for all SPFD firefighters and EMTs.

PURPOSE

This SOG provides guidance on Driver Operator training, Driver Operator certification and in service training. It addresses and outlines the training requirements for all firefighter and EMTs within the Department desiring to or being designated to drive fire or EMS apparatus.

DEFINITIONS

SHALL - Indicates a mandatory requirement.

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE (SOG) - Documents that help establish how an organization will operate and how its members are expected to carry out specific duties outlined in general terms.

DRIVER OPERATOR PUMPS – Training which brings the firefighter a basic level of motor pump operation. This North Carolina Certification course includes basic pump operations, hydraulics, water supply, sprinklers and standpipe operations, maintenance and service testing.

DRIVER TRAINING OFFICER – the Department officer designated to train and validate driver candidates to operate the Department’s apparatus.

DRIVER CANDIDATE – a firefighter designated to receive driver training on the Department’s apparatus.

IN-SERVICE ENGINEER TRAINING (ISET) – refresher and enhancement training conducted by the Department’s Driver Training Officer on designated training days or during Department drills.

ENGINEER – a fully validated and certified driver operator who can drive all department apparatus and who has successfully completed the North Carolina Driver Operator –Pumps course.

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**FIREFIGHTER and EMT DRIVER OPERATOR TRAINING GUIDELINES**

All SPFD firefighters and EMTs desiring or designated to drive the Department's apparatus must be trained and validated. To accomplish this requirement, the Department established a driver training program which starts the driver candidate on the smallest wheeled apparatus and elevates gradually to the large pumping engines.

Each driver candidate will receive a training packet for each apparatus. Upon completion of all the individual training tasks and requirements, the driver candidate will be tested on all the equipment carried onboard and receive a check ride. Once the check ride is successfully completed, the driver candidate will be cleared to complete 5 emergency traffic responses under the supervision of a Department officer. Upon successful completion of the 5 emergency traffic responses, the driver candidate is validated as a driver operator on that particular apparatus, and authorized to respond the apparatus without supervision. At this point, the driver operator can seek additional training and validation on additional Department apparatus.

Driver operators are strongly encouraged to enroll and complete North Carolina certification for Driver Operator – Pumps. As previously indicated, this course provides basic knowledge on the major facets of motor pump operations, and exposes and trains the driver operator in common pumping operations that may be encountered on the fireground.

A driver operator who has validated on all Department apparatus and successfully completed the Driver Operator – Pumps certification course may be considered for promotion to Engineer. The individual's training records will be reviewed by the Driver Training Officer with a recommendation presented to the Fire Chief for promotion.

EMS personnel will focus on 1371 and Rescue 13 for driver training. Those designated to train as driver operators will receive training packets from the Department Driver Training Officer.

IN SERVICE ENGINEER TRAINING (ISET)

ISET will be conducted at least once per month on designated training days and during Department drills. ISET's purpose is to enhance Engineer and Driver Operator capability, and to provide the latest information on pumping and apparatus operations. ISET also serves as an ongoing assessment process that monitors current Engineers aptitude, capability and road worthiness. The Department Driver Training Officer will coordinate ISET with current Engineers and driver candidates.

NORTH CAROLINA DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

All Full-time and Part-Time SPFD Engineers or Driver Operator's are required to have and maintain a North Carolina Class "B" Drivers License to operate fire apparatus.

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Although North Carolina General Statute 20-7(a) exempts volunteer firefighters from CDL licensing requirements it is the policy of the Department that all Volunteer SPFD Engineers or Driver Operator's upon clearance or certification shall within 6 months attain at a minimum a North Carolina Class "B" license. Volunteer members who are active duty military shall attain or have equivalent license from their home state.

All SPFD Engineers or Driver Operators shall complete the State Certification for (EVD) Emergency Vehicle Driver prior to being recognized as a certified Station Driver Operator.

The EVD course shall also be completed prior to operation of SPFD Emergency Vehicles.

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