



# SENECA COUNTY

## Emergency Services



### Seneca County Emergency Medical Services Standard Administrative Guideline

**Subject: Operational Guideline for Mutual Aid Response**

**Policy: 57**

**Effective: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Review Date: Annually**

**Policy/Procedure for Mutual Aid Response OUTSIDE of Seneca County EMS response area**

**Purpose: Mutual Aid Response Policy & Procedure:**

1. If any Seneca County EMS ambulance is dispatched into an area that is outside the jurisdiction of Seneca County EMS:
  - A. Seneca County EMS will respond with a full response using all due regard for the safety of all involved – meaning that an Ambulance & Echo will respond simultaneously to the mutual aid call for service.
  - B. Upon arrival the Echo & EMS crew will size up, triage, treat and transport the patients necessary in their Seneca County Ambulance following the Advanced Life Support protocols of Seneca County EMS.
  - C. Lights & Sirens response will be used when deemed necessary by the Seneca County EMS crew using good critical thinking and decision making. Due regard for the safety of the public and other responders shall always be utilized.

**If ONLY the Echo Paramedic is requested – The Echo Paramedic shall request the closest Seneca County EMS ambulance to be dispatched simultaneously. All Transports shall be done in a Seneca County EMS ambulance. The Echo paramedic shall not “climb aboard” another agency’s ambulance except to triage, treat, and transfer the patient to a Seneca County EMS ambulance for transport.**

Exceptions:

1. Multi-Patient (2-25) or Multi-Casualty Incidents (25+)
  2. When deemed necessary by EMS1/EMS2 or Physician Medical Director.
- The reason to bring a Seneca County EMS ambulance to all Mutual Aid response is to ensure the Seneca County EMS protocols can be followed including all advanced life support procedures & treatments.
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Some neighboring agencies use different protocols, medical direction, medical directives, and their ambulances are dissimilar to those in which we train and operate.

Any time a Seneca County Ambulance is requested outside of our Service area for any reason – the Echo unit shall respond in unison with the dispatched Seneca County EMS ambulance for the same above reason. If the Seneca County EMS ambulance is staffed with a Paramedic Level crew – the Echo unit will respond simultaneously with the squad but will respond normal traffic unless deemed necessary to respond Lights/Sirens.

### **Echo Paramedic Intercept: “Advanced Life Support Intercept”**

- Echo Paramedic Intercept is when the Echo Paramedic meets the transporting basic life support ambulance crew enroute to the hospital to provide advanced life support interventions and treatment.
- This WILL ONLY occur in a Seneca County EMS ambulance.
- We have no mutual aid agreement for this service with any outside agency

### **This policy specifically prohibits advanced life support Intercept with outside EMS agency.**

- Seneca County EMS ambulances are stocked and equipped with identical equipment and standardized packing lists. No other service is identical to Seneca County EMS.
- A Paramedic “Hopping in” the back of a basic life support ambulance is at a severe disadvantage and we prohibit this practice due to liability concerns.
- The Paramedic will be unable to render proper advanced life support care in an unfamiliar ambulance with dissimilar equipment, medication, and supplies.

### **Questions**

All questions in regards to this policy shall be made to the EMS office

No outside agency has the authority to change, alter, or augment this response policy.

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