



# **SENECA COUNTY**

## **Emergency Services**



### **Standard Administrative Guideline**

**Subject:** Echo Unit Response Policy

**Reference Number:** 29

**Effective Date:** 10/2008

**Review Date:** Review Annually, 2/2020

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to define the practice of responding to all calls for service by Seneca County Emergency Medical Services Echo Units

**Background:**

Echo units are designed to provide ALS assistance and additional personnel to all calls for service when a Seneca County EMS ambulance is dispatched.

**Policy & Procedure**

1. The Seneca County Echo Unit shall respond to all calls for service where a Seneca County EMS ambulance is the primary responding ambulance.
2. The response mode shall be “normal” traffic (without lights and sirens) unless indicated to respond emergency traffic by Seneca County Dispatch or the paramedic responding in the Echo unit deems that emergency response is necessary.
3. The Echo Unit paramedic shall check en route using the SMART Radio on SAFE West. The procedure shall be “Echo One is responding to <state the address of the call>, normal traffic”. If the Echo unit responds emergency traffic due to request or it is deemed necessary, state that you are responding emergency traffic. The ECHO unit will always respond with due regard and safety of others when responding to an emergency in either emergency or normal response mode.
4. The Echo unit paramedic is responding to all emergency calls for service to lend assistance to the local *responding* squad district. The Echo unit paramedic is not intended to take over the scene unless a command presence is needed (major incident).
5. Echo One shall be the designated call sign on the radio.

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6. The echo unit paramedic shall assist the local squad personnel with patient care, and provide ALS assessment, treatment, and triage if necessary.
7. The incident commander, or squad personnel on scene can cancel the Echo unit response if adequate personnel arrive on scene prior to the Echo unit's arrival. It is essential to ensure that the standard of care is met, so all personnel are advised to await the Echo unit arrival if any question exists as to whether or not the patient(s) require ALS assessment or care. If a paramedic responds with the squad, it will be the paramedic's decision whether or not they wish the Echo unit to continue to the scene.
8. The Echo unit shall be utilized as a training platform for the Seneca County Cadet program, and also for EMT's in training for "ride-along" hours. This will allow for the cadets, and/or students to respond to calls - county wide, and should increase the number of runs available for observation/education purposes.
9. The Echo unit shall monitor the SAFE frequency at all times throughout the shift and be prepared to respond to all calls for service.
10. The Echo Unit paramedic shall be located at the Public Safety Building at the Seneca County fairgrounds

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