



UPSHUR COUNTY ESD #1

Policy for: Providing proof of proper/valid license for operating fire apparatus by Upshur County ESD #1

Policy number: 2

Title: Policy for providing proof of proper/valid license to operate fire apparatus for insurance coverage

General description/purpose: The Upshur County ESD #1 provides vehicle insurance coverage for all fire apparatus approved at each fire department in our jurisdiction. That coverage comes at an ever-increasing cost and liability to all associated with ESD #1. One of the key factors spelled out by our insurance carrier is that each department develop and implement their own policy concerning firefighters authorized to operate emergency vehicles. This policy should include things like selection criteria, training requirements, restrictions on inexperienced drivers, disciplinary actions for driving violations, written emergency vehicle response safety guidelines, documented preventative maintenance program, accident investigation program, and medical evaluations.

Specifically addressing fire apparatus with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more the operator should have a minimum of a Class B Exempt drivers license to meet the rules set forth by the Texas Department of Public Safety. This covers the firefighter responding to and from emergencies.

Going forward: From December 13, 2021, going forward, it is the policy of the Upshur County ESD #1 that every fire chief provides a copy of each firefighter's driver's license that is authorized to drive any emergency vehicle. This documentation is to be provided annually to ESD #1 by the end of October each year unless the renewal date changes in which case the information should be provided by the end of the month preceding the renewal month. Firefighters driving emergency vehicles without the proper license will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

ESD board member

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