

## **FIRE APPARATUS OPERATIONS GUIDELINE**

### **PURPOSE:**

- To establish a uniform guideline for members of the Scriba Volunteer Fire Department related to operation of the departments apparatus while responding to an emergency.

### **GUIDELINE:**

- Only qualified driver/operators will operate apparatus in the emergency mode.
  - Emergency mode is with lights and siren activated
  - If not qualified but training you may be allowed to bring apparatus to a scene, Non-Emergency (No lights or Siren)
- Operation of any apparatus under the influence of drugs or alcohol is strictly prohibited.
  - This includes prescription drugs that state on the bottle to avoid operation of vehicles and or machinery
  - Rule of thumb is 8 hours after last alcoholic beverage
- All drivers are required to maintain a current valid New York State driver's license and be approved for operation by the department's insurance carrier.
- Drive defensively and use due regard at all times and recognize that the apparatus has no absolute right of way, and it cannot be taken forcefully.
- During emergency operations apparatus must be operated in such a manner and at such a speed upon approaching an intersection, controlled by a traffic control device so as to permit safe passage thru the intersection or to stop if necessary.
- When approaching and over taking traffic ensure that you have a clear line of sight ahead of you and can pass the other vehicle safely. Remember these vehicles do not pass like your personal vehicle.
- Apparatus should not be operated more than 10 miles per hour (MPH) over the posted speed limit and even less if the conditions warrant it ( Drive for the conditions slower is better )
- When approaching the scene slow and place the apparatus on the same side as the incident or where placed by command. Remember to pull passed the address to allow the Officer to see three sides.

- Driver/Operators will stay with there apparatus unless directed differently by command.
  - Monitor Equipment removed from your apparatus
  - Monitor radio transmissions in the event your assignment changes
  - Driver may leave 2762 if it is secured and off the roadway
- All warning Lights should be activated while the apparatus is on the apron and responding.
- All members riding the apparatus and the operator will utilize the vehicles seatbelts.
- No personnel will ride on the outside of the vehicle, standing in the door areas, or not sitting in a seat designed with a seatbelt.
- Members will remain seated until the vehicle stops and only exit when given their assignments by the Officer.
- When laying a supply line nobody should be riding on the outside of the vehicle and the operator should go no faster than 15 MPH
- Personnel in the Officers seat should control the radio and siren. After calling "responding" to an alarm, the radio will be tuned to the designated fire ground unless directed by Officer in charge (OIC).
- 2751 will operate either with a full or empty tank the unit will not be operated with a partial tank of water
- Whenever the apparatus is backing up a spotter will be utilized