CITY OF BELLINGHAM

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: **Firefighter/Paramedic** **TE ASSIGNED**

CLASSIFICATION: **Firefighter** **FLSA**

DEPARTMENT: **Fire**

JOB SUMMARY:

This is an assigned position. Performs paramedic duties through assignment to an emergency mobile medic unit or through assignment to a fire suppression unit and activities. Employees are required to apply both technical paramedical life saving skills and/or firefighter skills for the protection of life and property. Paramedic duties involve response/treatment of emergency medical calls subject to physician supervision and/or in accordance with standing orders. Working conditions include stressful situations involving trauma, illness, or contagious disease and sometimes severe environmental conditions. Strenuous exertion may be required. Paramedic skills are acquired by specialized training/certification programs. A substantial amount of time is spent in training, medical and related record keeping, inspection/maintenance of equipment as well as cleaning/maintenance of apparatus and quarters.

SUPERVISORY RELATIONSHIPS:

Reports to assigned Captain. A paramedic also receives EMS/ALS program related supervision through and/or work is reviewed by Medical Services Officer and/or Quality Assurance Supervisor. During an emergency, is responsible for patient care, and accomplishes duties in accordance with established medical protocols and operating guidelines. Paramedics are expected to exercise considerable independent judgment in the response to medical emergencies.

WORK PERFORMED:

Paramedic Duties:

Under established protocols or the direct instruction of a physician, applies advanced life support skills to triage, rescue, treat and transport injured or ill persons.

1. Responds to medical emergencies throughout the county and in accordance with established mutual aid agreements.

2. Provides patient care functions, including but not limited to, gathering patient information and medical history, performing patient exams, formulating a plan for treatment, and rendering treatment consistent with patient care protocols and or instructions.

3. Obtains information from and provides explanation/counseling to patients, relatives and others involved related to the emergency.

4. Directs medical activities at multiple patient scenes or mass casualty incidents until relieved by a qualified supervisor; performs triage; coordinates medical transportation of the sick and injured.

5. Utilizes a wide variety of mobile medical equipment.

6. Maintains the confidentiality of patient information as required by law. Completes medical incident reports, records patient information, completes incident and billing forms and forwards files as required by established protocols or practice.

7. Inspects, tests, and maintains emergency aid equipment as needed through cleaning and or sanitizing, periodic maintenance checks, repair or referral for repair or replacement; maintains emergency vehicle and equipment in orderly and sanitary condition.

8. Replenishes medications and supplies.

9. Performs or participates in the supervisory function of student evaluations for Departmental Paramedic Certification Program; assists in emergency medical technician continuing education training. Performs educational activities such as informing the public of the paramedic program and other public information/education activities incidental to direct patient care.

10. Attends continuing education as required by the department to maintain skills as well as certification.

Firefighter Duties:

All the duties outlined for the Firefighter classification.

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities):

In addition to the performance requirements for the Firefighter class, Paramedic requires:

- Ability to effectively deal with trauma and serious illness in an emergency situation;
- Working knowledge of Departmental medical protocols, applying these to medical emergencies and other medical response situations;
- Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing,
- Ability to effectively take charge of patient, civilian and less qualified personnel during an emergency situation;
- Ability to drive ambulance under emergency conditions and be familiar with county roads and maps;
- Ability to maintain consistent and punctual attendance.
- Ability and willingness to demonstrate the Public Service Competencies of Service Orientation, Results Orientation, and Teamwork and Cooperation.
- Must maintain confidentiality in dealing with patient information and providing care.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:

- All Firefighter requirements.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- All Firefighter Necessary Special Requirements.
- Certified as a paramedic in the State of Washington.

- Departmental certification as approved by the Fire Chief and the Department's Medical Program Director.

PREPARED BY: Staff 8/91 **REVIEWED BY:** _____
Bill Boyd, Fire Chief

REVISED BY: R. Christensen
M. Barrett
A. Beatty
3/07

COMMISSION APPROVAL: March 14, 2007