

SOG #

00-42

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Purpose

To ensure that the transportation of a deceased person is not done.

Scope

The Topsfield Fire Department **SHALL NOT** transport a deceased person in the Ambulance. The only exception to this SOG would be while following Appendix C of the Cessation of Resuscitation Protocol of the Statewide Treatment Protocols which states:

Special Considerations and Procedures:

1. a) If during transport, EMTs cease resuscitation of a patient in accordance with the requirements above, they shall continue to the closest appropriate hospital for pronouncement of death. This is always a special circumstance that is in the interest of public health and safety, and thus meets the requirements of 105 CMR 170.365.
- b) During transports when resuscitative efforts have appropriately been ceased in accordance with the requirements above, EMTs must cover the person with a sheet, transport without the use of emergency vehicle audible and visual warning devices, and notify the receiving hospital in advance.
2. In all cases where EMTs have withheld or ceased resuscitative efforts in accordance with the requirements above, and left the person in the field, procedures must include notification of appropriate medical or medico-legal authorities, such as police.
3. EMS trip record documentation must reflect the criteria used to determine obvious death or allow cessation of resuscitative efforts.