

CHAPTER 3-700. FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

PART 3-701. CREATION OF DEPARTMENT. There is hereby established a Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department in the City to be known as the Richmond Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. The members of the Department may adopt a constitution, by-laws, and such other rules and regulations as may be necessary for the effective operation of the Department, including requirements for membership therein. All such rules and regulations governing the operation of the Fire and Rescue Department shall be approved and ratified by the Richmond City Council. The Statutory Authority for this action is found in Utah Code Annotated 10-8-55.

3-702. OFFICERS OF DEPARTMENT. The officers of the Department shall be a Fire Chief, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the Richmond City Council, two (2) Battalion Chiefs, who shall be elected by the volunteer members of the Department and ratified by the Richmond City Council, and such other officers as may be provided for in the constitution and by-laws of the Department. Officers of the Department, other than the Fire Chief, shall be elected or re-appointed annually, and their names submitted to the City Council for confirmation.

1. One Battalion Chief shall be designated as Battalion Chief Over Fire.
2. One Battalion Chief shall be designated as Battalion Chief Over Emergency Medical Services.
3. The Constitution and By-Laws, to include Standard Operating Procedures and Standard Operating Guides, shall be periodically reviewed and up-dated as necessary.
 - a. Such reviews shall take place, at minimum, every fifth year unless conditions warrant more frequent re-evaluations.
 - b. Following any review that results in changes, the revised document(s) shall be ratified by the Richmond City Council.

3-703. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The Fire Department, under the direction of the Fire Chief, shall have the duty of extinguishing fires and of protecting life and property within the City. The Fire Chief shall have the sole and entire command over all officers and members of the Department at fires, and in his/her absence the highest ranking officer of the Department at the fire shall have command. The Fire Department may

periodically inspect business establishments to check for fire hazards, may at the request or with the permission of the owner inspect private homes for fire hazards and may divide the City into fire districts. The members of the Department shall keep the fire-fighting apparatus in proper condition for immediate use.

3-704. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES. The Fire and Rescue Department shall provide emergency medical services. The Fire Chief shall assure that the Department has sufficient staff, equipment, vehicles and supplies and that medical personnel are properly trained, certified and supervised in order to properly provide emergency medical services within the City, in accordance with the requirements of State rules, laws and licensure, and within the standards and protocols adopted by the Department. The Fire Chief shall also insure that the Department shall maintain properly configured and equipped fixed facilities.

3-705. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS. The Richmond City Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department will work in conjunction with the Cache County Fire District, the Cache County Emergency Medical Services, or other public safety and emergency response entities. The Department will adhere to all Interlocal Agreements entered into, and ratified by, the Richmond City Council.

3-706. RESTRICTIONS. The Richmond City Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department will not establish any policies or procedures that go counter to National or State of Utah instruction, procedures, or guidelines.

3-707. REMUNERATION. Compensation for all members of the Department shall be fixed by resolution of the City Council from time to time.

3-708. RIGHT-OF-WAY. City fire trucks are hereby declared to be emergency vehicles and shall have all of the rights-of-way and exemptions from traffic regulations that are provided by State law.

3-709. MAY BLOCKADE STREETS. Whenever a fire shall occur, it shall be lawful for the Fire Chief or the officer in command to blockade any street, avenue, alley, sidewalk, or other place if in his/her judgment it is necessary to secure the efficient working of the men, hose, engines, or hook and ladder apparatus under his/her command, and to protect the hose of said Department from injury. It shall be unlawful for any person to break through said blockade.

3-710. RIGHT OF ENTRY. The members of the Fire Department shall have the right to enter upon any premises for the purpose of investigating, extinguishing, or controlling fires.

3-711. REMOVAL OF OBSTRUCTIONS. When a fire is in progress, the Fire Chief, or in his/her absence the officer in charge, may order the removal or destruction of any building, fence, or any telephone, telegraph or electric light poles or wires or any other obstruction in order to prevent the progress of the fire, but neither the Fire Chief nor any other officer or member of the Department shall unnecessarily or recklessly destroy or injure any building or other property.

3-712. USE OF WATER. The Fire Chief, or other officer in charge, shall have the right to use water from any source for the purpose of extinguishing fires or for saving property in danger of being destroyed by fire.

3-713. INVESTIGATION OF FIRE. The Fire Chief, or other officer in charge of the fire, shall, after its extinguishment, make a prompt and thorough investigation of the cause of the fire, the time of alarm, the amount of loss and insurance, a description of the affected building and premises, and shall secure all other useful information and data available and record the same, and shall report the same to the City Council at such times as it may direct. If the officer making this investigation determines that the fire appears to be of suspicious origin, he/she may notify the State Fire Marshal to that effect.