



APPENDIX K:

SCOPE OF WORK EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAVEL POLICY

Policy Statement

This policy outlines the guidelines for determining the scope of employment for peace officers in relation to workers' compensation, specifically addressing the travel of a first responder while enroute to an emergency call. The purpose of this policy is to establish the parameters under which such travel is considered to be within the course and scope of the first responders' employment for the purpose of workers' compensation eligibility.

Scope of Employment

For purposes of workers' compensation, a peace officer's travel enroute to an emergency call is considered to be in the course and scope of the peace officer's employment. This recognition applies when the first responder is responding to an emergency call as part of their official duties and responsibilities.

A first responder who sustains a serious bodily injury in the course and scope of the first responder's employment or volunteer services as a first responder that renders the first responder permanently unemployable is entitled to receive lifetime income benefits paid until the first responder's death.

Guidelines:

1. Emergency Calls: Travel by a peace officer to respond to emergency calls, including situations requiring law enforcement intervention, public safety, and protection of life or property, shall be deemed as within the course and scope of employment.
2. Official Duties: Travel must be directly related to the peace officer's official duties and responsibilities. This includes instances where the peace officer is dispatched or assigned to address a specific emergency situation.
3. Authorized Vehicle: The peace officer must be using an authorized vehicle, such as a marked police car or other designated emergency response vehicle, during travel to the emergency call.
4. Immediate Response: The peace officer's travel to the emergency call must be immediate and reasonable given the circumstances. Delays or detours that are not directly related to the emergency response may affect the determination of eligibility for workers' compensation.

5. Confirmation: The determination of whether the travel is within the course and scope of employment will be based on a confirmation that the peace officer was responding to a valid emergency call in accordance with established departmental protocols and guidelines.
6. Documentation: Peace officers are required to maintain accurate records and documentation of their response to emergency calls. This includes relevant dispatch records, time of departure, route taken, and time of arrival at the scene.

Non-Applicability:

This policy does not apply to personal travel or travel unrelated to official duties, even if undertaken by a peace officer. Travel during personal time or unrelated to emergency response is not covered under this policy for workers' compensation purposes.

Conclusion:

It is the responsibility of peace officers to adhere to this policy when responding to emergency calls. Failure to comply with the guidelines outlined in this policy may affect the determination of workers' compensation eligibility for travel related to emergency response. This policy is designed to ensure fair and consistent treatment for peace officers in accordance with the scope of their employment during emergency situations.