
	COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE Department of Fire Rescue STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE	
	Subject:	Marking of Disabled Vehicles & Roadway Obstructions
	Reference Number:	SOG-OPS-008
	Effective Date:	23 June 2004
	Last Revision Date:	N/A
Signature of Approval:	 J. Dan Eggleston, Chief	

Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to outline marking of disabled vehicles and roadway obstructions to help prevent repeated responses to the same incident.

Background:

This guideline was adopted by the Albemarle County Fire Rescue Advisory Board (ACFRAB) at the June 2004 meeting.

Scope:

It shall be the policy of all Albemarle County fire departments/companies/stations and rescue squads that all personnel will adhere to the following guideline. It is the intent of this guideline to ensure safety and prevent injury and loss of life of personnel and the public.

Guideline:

Fire department or rescue squad personnel should attempt to stay with any disabled vehicle, downed utility line, or any other hazard that is blocking traffic lanes until police or other appropriate agency arrives to remedy the situation. Under extreme conditions due to call load or inclement weather it may be necessary to leave an aforementioned hazard in, or adjacent to, the roadway. In those circumstances the following guidelines will be followed to mark the hazard.

1. **Marking Disabled Vehicles and Hazards**

When fire/rescue personnel find it necessary to leave a disabled vehicle or other hazard they should mark it in the following manner:

- Personnel shall attempt to safely wrap or surround the vehicle/hazard with "fire line tape" (or similar yellow caution tape) in such a manner that the tape will be visible to other passers-by.
- Personnel should then notify dispatch of the vehicle/hazard location and that it has been marked. This will be done so that further calls to 911 might result in an identification of the vehicle as already having been investigated, therefore eliminating the need for further response by any fire or rescue agency.