

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy #05 Non-Line Of Duty Death Policy

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It will be the policy of the Minnesota EMS Honor Guard to attempt to send at least one representative to participate in a Non-Line Of Duty Death funeral. Once the Honor Guard has been notified of a request, every attempt will be made to have a representative attend. However, we may not be able to fulfill every request. Since we are a volunteer organization, we will not ask our members to take time off from their jobs for a Non-Line Of Duty Death.

A Non-Line Of Duty Death is any individual who has died while not on duty. This includes all manners of death, including suicides. This policy shall apply to both active and retired members of the EMS community. It is important to note that if an Active Duty EMS individual dies of a heart attack or some other specific medical issue within 24 hours of his or her shift, they may be entitled to a Line Duty Death Ceremony, and possibly the family could be entitled to benefits. Please follow the Line of Duty Death Policy for these situations. A determination will be made by the Honor Guard after being contacted.

In the event of a Non-LODD, the EMS Manager should first contact the family and ask if they would appreciate an MN EMS Honor Guard performance. As much as you or your organization may want this, the Minnesota EMS Honor Guard will only perform at the family's request.

The Honor Guard will attempt to get someone to come and perform a limited performing ceremony. Limited performance means that we will, before the service begins, meet with the family or their representative, the minister, and the funeral home representative. We will arrange to do a final bow and salute with the Director of the EMS Service and the Honor Guard Representative just before the service starts. We will, at the end of the service, arrange a corridor of Honor for ALL uniformed personnel attending. We will explain how this works to everyone on the day of the funeral.

We will not participate in any graveside service other than attending, if possible, to show our respect.

ALL Operation Managers/Directors must understand that a Non-Line Of Duty Death is not handled the same way as a Line Of Duty Death. There are many reasons for this; the Minnesota EMS Honor Guard follows the same guidelines as the Military does for these situations.

If travel is required, we will request that the EMS Service with whom the member is affiliated provide a hotel room if necessary. We also would ask for a donation to the MNEMSHG.