



Oak Cliff Fire Protection District

“Trustworthy servants dedicated to the professional and ethical responsibility to protect lives and property.”

13425 S. Bryant Ave., Edmond, OK 73034
405-340-9115

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EMSA Abandoning Ambulance Service to Areas of Northwest Oklahoma County and Southern Logan County.

Effective at 11:59 p.m. December 31, 2023, in portions of Northwest Oklahoma County (Deer Creek) and Southern Logan County (Oak Cliff) EMSA will no longer be the dedicated ambulance service provider.

In April of 2023, the City of Edmond Fire Department went before the City Council and requested that a Request for Proposal (RFP) be placed for a new ambulance provider for the city as they were unhappy with the service provided by Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). EMSA also serves as the primary ambulance provider for both Deer Creek Fire Protection District and Oak Cliff Fire Protection District.

June of 2023, Concerned that ambulance services may be impacted by the city of Edmond’s potential change, the Administration of both departments met with EMSA officials. EMSA assured both departments that in the event they did not provide services to the City of Edmond, they would continue to provide services to Deer Creek and Oak Cliff. With the Good Faith arrangement in place, departments continued to work on their system integrations and to provide a high level of service to the citizenry.

In August of 2023, the City of Edmond conditionally chose American Medical Response (AMR) as their new service provider. Following this decision, in September EMSA sent written notice to Deer Creek and Oak Cliff stating that once the contract with Edmond was terminated, they would no longer serve the two communities going back on their arrangement from the meeting in June.

In September of 2023, Deer Creek and Oak Cliff then met with the Oklahoma County District 3 Commissioner Myles Davidson and Logan County District 1 Commissioner Mark Sharpton to discuss the ambulance situation and find a permanent solution for services.

In December of 2023, collaborative efforts between Oak Cliff, Deer Creek, Commissioner Sharpton, Commissioner Davidson, and Miller EMS have led to the immediate solution.

Beginning January 1, 2024 at 12:00 a.m., the new primary licensed ambulance service provider for the area formally serviced by EMSA will be Miller EMS. Oak Cliff, Deer Creek, Commissioner Sharpton, Commissioner Davidson, and Miller EMS are looking forward to this new partnership and continued efforts in providing the best possible services to our districts.

Deer Creek and Oak Cliff are combination Title 19.901 fire protection districts. This means that although they do not cover a municipal area, they are tax funded through a millage assessment. This millage provides for fire emergency services only. Neither department is funded for EMS services, but both departments have historically provided first-response medical to the citizens of their districts. Both departments are licensed as Emergency Medical Response Agencies (EMRA) and have personnel both career and volunteer that are trained as EMR, EMT, AEMT, and Paramedics that serve the communities. Deer Creek responds to approximately 750 calls per year and Oak Cliff responds to approximately 1300 calls per year with 50% of those calls being some type of medical emergency.

Oak Cliff remains committed to community safety, prompt emergency responses, and to being an advocate for high quality emergency services for the continued growing populations of our district. We will continue to provide updates as the situation unfolds.

NEXT STEPS:

To address long-term solutions, Oak Cliff and Deer Creek, along with Commissioner Davidson's team, are involved in legislative initiatives to empower Fire Protection Districts to adopt legislation for increased EMS transport funding. This proposal, under legislative review, requires citizen approval and is estimated to be a two-year process. Senator Chuck Hall and Senator Kristen Thompson is assisting in spearheading this initiative, and then Representative Nicole Miller will deliver it through the House.

Oak Cliff remains committed to community safety, prompt emergency responses, and to being an advocate for high quality emergency services for the continued growing populations of our district. We will continue to provide updates as the situation unfolds.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Public engagement is crucial. Citizens are urged to contact their county commissioners and legislators to emphasize their support of this new legislation and the need for continued and reliable ambulance services in affected and other unincorporated areas.

Logan County District 1 Commissioner Mark Sharpton
Oklahoma County District 3 Commissioner Myles Davidson
Oklahoma Legislature: <https://oksenate.gov/> and <https://www.okhouse.gov/>

For media inquiries or further information, please email info@oakcliffd.com