

NEWTON COUNTY TEXAS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT # 4

Order # 1

as of

September 16, 2025

In accordance with the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 775 the Newton County Emergency Services District #4 hereby establishes the following process to assess fees for services rendered during emergency responses.

1. Types of responses that may incur a fee charge:
 - a. Vehicle accidents.
 - b. Hazardous material responses.
 - c. Industrial accident/incident responses including manufacturing and production facilities and oil and natural gas pipeline collection, distribution, and transportation.
 - d. Fires
 1. Burn ban, fires set during a burn ban that require a response.
 2. Negligent fires, fires that spread out of control due to negligent actions or inaction.
 3. Malicious fires, fires started or threatened with malicious intent.
 - e. Emergency medical response.
 1. Medical response required for malicious acts such as domestic violence, assault, or battery.
 - f. Any other incident where the Emergency Services District # 4 board believes it is appropriate to assess a fee for services.
2. Process:
 - a. The Toledo Bend Volunteer Fire Department (TBVFD) Fire Chief will investigate the incident and determine if it is reasonable and appropriate to assess a fee. The Fire Chief will calculate the fee using Annex (A) to this Order.
 - b. TBVFD Fire Chief will provide the Emergency Services District #4 board with the details of the incident and his recommendations on fee assessment.
 - c. The Emergency Services District # 4 board will vote on whether to assess a fee.
 - d. If a fee is assessed the Secretary will draft a letter to the entity being assessed explaining the fee and the charged entity will have 60 days to pay the fee. The entity being assessed will also be given the opportunity to challenge the assessed fee before the board at its next meeting.
 - e. All collected fees will be placed into the General Fund and used to provide further support to the TBVFD.
3. Fee schedule:

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- a. The fees schedule uses the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Schedule of Equipment Rates for the current fiscal year for guidance in setting rates.
 - b. See Annex (A) for rates.
 - c. Any equipment used that is not found in Annex (A) will be looked up in the FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates or estimated at a reasonable rate.
4. Disbursement:
- a. Fees collected will be used to support the TBVFD or
 - b. Disbursed to agencies providing mutual aid.
 - 1. The TBVFD Fire Chief will maintain a list of assisting agencies and their equipment used and report this to the Emergency Services District # 4. The Treasurer will proportionally disburse funds to assisting agencies.