



Orting Valley Fire and Rescue

Pierce County Fire District 18
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Resolution 2018-012

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Fire Commissioners (the "Board") of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18, (the "District") establishing reasonable charges for "treat and release" emergency medical services provided to areas outside the boundaries of the District, not within the boundaries of any other fire protection district, and for which the District does not have a contract for emergency medical services. This Resolution would help reimburse the district for its actual costs of providing such services.

WHEREAS, the District, from time to time, responds to the scene of an emergency outside the boundaries of the District, not within the boundaries of any other fire protection district, and for which the District does not have a contract for emergency medical services (the "No District Areas") to deliver "treat and release" emergency medical services ("Treat and Release Services"), which are not basic life support services, advanced life support services-1, or advanced life support service-2 as provided for in Resolution 2016-007;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.021, the District is authorized by statute to provide Treat and Release Services to the No District Areas under such conditions as the Board of Commissioners of the District may prescribe;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.131, the District is authorized to establish reasonable fees to cover its costs in providing Treat and Release Services to the No District Areas in order to reimburse the district for its costs of providing such services;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the District has reviewed the actual cost to the District of providing specific services and has determined reasonable charges for providing Treat and Release Services to the No District Areas;

WHEREAS, the actual cost to the District for traveling to provide emergency medical services includes a variety of costs, including the following:

- (A) Total cost of compensation for personnel who respond;
- (B) Apparatus costs (fuel, maintenance, repair, etc.)
- (C) Medical equipment costs
- (D) Medical Supplies.

WHEREAS, in establishing the reasonable charges, the District recognizes that individuals residing and owning property in the No District Areas do not by virtue of such residency or property ownership pay real property taxes, directly or indirectly, which partially fund the operation of the District and the acquisition of District property and equipment.

WHEREAS, the District desires to institute a policy to ensure consistency in billing and the collection of charges for Treat and Release Services to No District Areas, while recognizing that the cost to collect should not exceed the amount of the bill.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED,

Section 1. "Treat and Release Services," as used herein, shall mean all emergency medical services, except for basic life support services, advanced life support services-1, or advanced life support service-2 as provided for in Resolution 2016-007.

Section 2. "No District Areas," as used herein, shall mean a physical location to which the District responds that is outside the boundaries of the District, not within the boundaries of any other fire protection district, and for which the District does not have a contract for emergency medical services.

Section 3. The Board hereby adopts the following reasonable charges for providing Treat and Release Services to No District Areas in order to reimburse the district for its actual costs of providing such services:

- (A) A flat fee of \$500.00; plus
- (B) \$22.00 per ground mile traveled in providing Treat and Release Services (round trip).

Section 4. The Chief of the District is authorized and directed to collect the established charges in accordance with the following procedures:


- (A) The District or its agent shall issue a billing statement to the recipient of the Treat and Release Services and, if available, his or her health insurance company no later than fourteen (14) days after the services have been rendered.
- (B) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the initial billing, a follow-up billing shall be sent.
- (C) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the follow-up billing, a final billing shall be sent.
- (D) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the final billing, the debt shall be assigned to a collection agency pursuant to RCW 19.16.500 or, if appropriate, written off as an uncollectable debt at the discretion of the Fire Chief.
- (E) The District reserves the right to waive any bill on a case-by-case basis if financial hardship is demonstrated by the patient.

ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18, at an open public meeting thereof this 21st day of August, 2018, of which notice was given in the manner provided by law, the following Commissioners being present and voting.

Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18.

By: 
TOM MARINO
Fire Commissioner

By: 
SHAWN MAHONEY
Fire Commissioner

By: 
ARLENE DANNAT
Fire Commissioner

By: 
KEVIN GORDER
Fire Commissioner

By: 
MARGARET O'HARRA BUTTZ
Fire Commissioner

ATTEST:


KIM KEMP, District Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners