

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide members with guidelines regarding management's authority and responsibilities of department personnel, concerning the management of Fire Department Fleet Vehicles for the Cumru Township Fire Department.

Administration:

The Chief of Fire Services has the authority and responsibility for the management and certain maintenance of the Fire Department Vehicles for the Cumru Township Fire Department.

Definitions:

The following terminology is used in the sections below.

- **Automatic vehicle location (AVL) system** – a system consisting of a GPS receiver which provides a communications link between the vehicle and pc-based tracking software and provides up-to-date diagnostic information for the vehicle.
- **Fire Department Vehicles** – Any vehicle designated for use by fire department members and ancillary employees as necessary. Examples of an ancillary employee would be township mechanic or other approved service providers.

Procedure:

- The Township Manager will have the authority to instruct the Fire Chief to have installed an automatic vehicle location (AVL) system in specific designated fire department vehicles.
- The purpose of managing the Cumru Township Fire Department Fleet Vehicles through the use of a automatic vehicle location (AVL) system, includes, but is not limited to the following:
 1. To provide information to defend accusations against department members by recalling locations, speeds, and vehicle movement information for evidence in a civil or criminal proceeding.
 2. To justify the actions of a member. This system can provide the evidence necessary to address the concerns of citizens about frequency, duration and locations of fire department vehicles.
 3. To set up custom maintenance alert schedules. Regular maintenance will extend vehicle life and provide safe vehicles for fire department use.
 4. To provide mechanics with diagnostic information to begin their analysis of vehicle problems, in order to reduce repair costs and downtime and make repairs immediately. This will increase performance safety of the vehicles and return them to the usable fleet in a timely manner.
 5. To provide the ability to quickly pinpoint vehicles with excessive idle times, speeds and inefficient fuel use, which will assist in maximizing the fleet's efficiency and minimize costs.
 6. Any other management initiative identified as a priority by the Fire Chief.
- All automatic vehicle location (AVL) systems shall be inspected, as necessary, by the Fire Chief or his designee, to ensure proper working order of the system.
- Any observed damage or malfunction of the automatic vehicle location (AVL) system by any member shall immediately be reported to the Fire Chief.

- Any individual who tampers with, damages, destroys, disconnects or disables or allows or directs an individual to damage, destroy, disconnect or disable the automatic vehicle location (AVL) system in a fire fleet vehicle, shall be subject to all provisions of the current Cumru Township Fire Department's Standard Operating Manual and/or the PA Crimes Code.