

EMS—Medical

EMS

LCFR continues to expand the medical services that we respond to daily. The partnership with SGMC EMS is one that continues to grow with training and responding to calls daily. We recently added the following call types to our medical response matrix for a fire department initial dispatch response:

1. Shootings (GSW)
2. Stabbings/Cutting
3. Diabetic Emergency
4. Choking
5. Drowning
6. Electrocution
7. Stroke Emergency
8. Burns
9. Overdose

In addition to the above call types, we are requested daily to respond to “Level 0” and or delayed response call for services. “Level 0” and/or delayed response from EMS calls are when all EMS units are assigned to calls and EMS has no available unit or when the assigned EMS unit is responding from a distance. LCFR generated 528 calls for service for “Level 0” and/or delayed response from EMS call types for 2024.

Justification for Quick Response Vehicles (ORV) for Emergency Medical Response at Lowndes County Fire Rescue

The 9-1-1 system is strained and increasingly called upon to deliver Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the community.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates that approximately sixty-five percent of fire department calls involve medical response. (<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/research/nfpa-research/fire-statistical-reports/fire-department-calls>) Emergency medical responses for fire departments have nearly tripled in the last 35 years.

According to the U.S. Fire Administration’s last published national fire department run profile, fire departments responded to 26,959,000 incidents of which 64% required EMS and rescue services. (<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/reports/firefighters-departments/fire-department-run-profile-v22i1.html>)

Per the International Association of Fire Chiefs position statement regarding EMS in the fire Service (<https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/resources/resource/iafc-position-fire-based-emergency-medical-services>), EMS is an essential component of the services provided by the fire service. Fire departments are strategically and geographically well positioned to deliver time critical response and effective patient care rapidly.