



# Western Berks Fire Department Training Bulletin

## Alive on Arrival

**Training Bulletin #:** 003-12  
**Issued:** 06/01/12

**Issued By:** Fire Commissioner Jeff Weidner  
**Version:** 1.0

### **Purpose Statement**

This training bulletin has been developed to provide information on the Alive on Arrival program developed by the United States Fire Administration.

### **Scope Statement**

This training bulletin applies to all members and employees of the Western Berks Fire Department.

Please see the attached information from the United States Fire Administration on the Alive on Arrival Program. This information is provided to summarize safe vehicle operations for drivers/operators and also passengers of emergency vehicles.



## As an Emergency Vehicle Operator (cont'd.)

- Always use the parking brake and appropriately chock the wheels of parked emergency vehicles.
- Don't move your emergency vehicle until you and all passengers are seated safely and wearing seatbelts; every occupant of an emergency vehicle needs to have a seatbelt. If your emergency vehicle does not have them for every occupant, they need to be installed.
- Make sure your emergency vehicle is completely stopped before anyone unbuckles their seat belts and exits.
- Always use a competent spotter when backing your emergency vehicle.
- Never drive an emergency (or any other) vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol or when fatigued. Be aware of how any medication or fatigue may affect your ability to operate an emergency vehicle.

## As an Emergency Vehicle Passenger

- Always put on protective clothing before getting in an emergency vehicle.
- Always ride seated in the interior of the emergency vehicle with your seatbelt fastened. Do not loosen your seatbelt when the vehicle is in motion.
- If not completely enclosed by the vehicle, wear a helmet and use eye protection.
- Never ride on the exterior tail board or side running boards of an emergency vehicle.
- Never stand in a moving emergency vehicle.
- Never try to jump onto or from a moving emergency vehicle.
- Ensure that all tools and equipment in passenger and patient treatment compartments are secured safely before the emergency vehicle moves.
- Ensure that the emergency vehicle has come to a complete stop before you unbuckle your seatbelt and exit the vehicle.
- Prior to exiting an emergency vehicle, ensure that it is safe to do so. Watch for oncoming traffic, downed wires, and other hazards. Look before you exit.
- When operating on the roadway, wear appropriate ANSI compliant, personal protective clothing with fluorescent and retro-reflective material.
- If you are performing as a spotter for a backing emergency vehicle, always be aware of its direction and location. Never turn your back on a vehicle headed in your direction.
- Never board an emergency vehicle as a responder under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



**As The Officer In Charge**

You are responsible for safe and prudent operations of the emergency vehicle and for the safety of all passengers in the vehicle.

For more information or copies of this publication, please contact:

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
**U.S. Fire Administration**  
16825 South Seton Avenue  
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727  
800-561-3356 • [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)



**FEMA**

