

## **Job Description – Walsh Ambulance Service - Captain**

### **Responsibilities:**

Respond to emergency calls to provide efficient and immediate care to the critically ill and injured, and to transport the patient to a medical facility. After receiving the call from the dispatcher, the Captain ensures that the ambulance arrives at the scene safely and is responsible for ensuring its safe operation to the scene. The Captain is also responsible for providing patient care and ensuring the apparatus is restocked and ready for the next call.

The Captain in addition to normal patient care will:

- Ensure monthly checks are complete and conducted by his/her crew to ensure that the ambulance and equipment on the ambulance are operationally ready
- Ensure that members assigned to their response area/stations have completed required reports/paperwork and that it has been turned in to the EMS Chief or Assistant Chief
- Ensure that patient care meets or exceeds the Walsh Ambulance Service Expectations by conducting after action reviews and CQIs of runs in their response areas
- Conduct outreach in the response areas to recruit additional EMRs, EMTs, other care providers and drivers to ensure enough personnel are available to respond to calls
- Ensure coverage of EMS personnel in their response areas
- Ensure personnel are competent on their skills and abilities
- Keeps the EMS Chief or the Assistant Chief advised of incidents and problems within the captain's response area

Upon arrival at the scene of crash or illness, the Captain ensures the ambulance parked in a safe location to avoid additional injury. Prior to initiating patient care, the Captain will also "size-up" the scene to determine: that the scene is safe; the mechanism of injury or nature of illness; the total number of patients; and to request additional help, if necessary. The Captain will initiate the Incident Command System and will serve in the role if it has not already been established until another member in a higher ranking position or more highly trained arrives on scene. In the absence of law enforcement, the Captain creates a safe traffic environment, such as the placement of road flares, removal of debris and redirection of traffic for the protection of the injured and those assisting in the care of injured patients. The Captain determines the nature and extent of illness or injury and establishes priority for required emergency care. The Captain renders emergency medical and or trauma care, to adults, children and infants based on assessment findings. Duties include but are not limited to:

- Opening and maintaining an airway;
- Ventilating patients;
- Administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation, including use of automated external defibrillators;
- Providing prehospital emergency medical care of simple and multiple system trauma such as:
  - Controlling hemorrhage,
  - Treatment of shock (hypoperfusion),

- Bandaging wounds,
- Immobilization of painful, swollen, or deformed extremities,
- immobilization of painful, swollen, or deformed neck or spine;
- Providing emergency medical care to:
  - Assist in emergency childbirth,
  - Manage general medical complaints of altered mental status, respiratory, cardiac, diabetic, allergic reaction, seizures, poisoning behavioral emergencies, environmental emergencies, and psychological crises. Additional care is provided based upon assessment of the patient and obtaining historical information.
- Searching for medical identification emblems as a guide to appropriate emergency medical care.
- Assisting patients with prescribed medications, including sublingual nitroglycerin, epinephrine autoinjectors and hand-held aerosol inhalers.
- Administration of oxygen, oral glucose and activated charcoal.
- Reassuring patients and bystanders by working in a confident, efficient manner.
- Avoiding mishandling and undue haste while working expeditiously to accomplish the task.

Where a patient must be extricated from entrapment, the Captain assesses the extent of injury and gives all possible emergency care and protection to the entrapped patient and uses the prescribed techniques and appliances for safely removing the patient. If needed, the Captain radios the dispatcher for additional help or special rescue and/or utility services. Provides simple rescue service if the ambulance has not been accompanied by a specialized unit. After extrication, provides additional care in triaging the injured in accordance with standard emergency procedures.

The Captain is responsible for:

- Ensuring the safety of the patient, responders and public at a scene.
- Lifting the stretcher (be able to lift and carry 125 pounds),
- Placing it in the ambulance and seeing that the patient and stretcher are secured
- Continuing emergency medical care while enroute to the medical facility.

The Captain uses the knowledge of the condition of the patient and the extent of injuries and the relative locations and staffing of emergency hospital facilities to determine the most appropriate facility to which the patient will be transported, unless otherwise directed by medical direction. The Captain reports directly to the emergency department or communications center the nature and extent of injuries, the number being transported and the destination to assure prompt medical care on arrival. The Captain identifies assessment findings, which may require communications with medical control, for advice and for notification that special professional services and assistance be immediately available upon arrival at the medical facility.

The Captain:

- Constantly assesses the patient enroute to the emergency facility, administers additional care as indicated or directed by medical control,
- Assists in lifting and carrying the patient out of the ambulance and into the receiving medical facility
- Reports verbally and in writing, their observation and emergency medical care of the patient at the emergency scene and in transit, to the receiving medical facility staff for purposes of records and diagnostics
- Upon request provides assistance to the receiving medical facility staff.

After each call, the Captain:

- Restocks and replaces used linens, blankets and other supplies,
- Cleans all equipment following appropriate disinfecting procedures,
- Makes careful check of all equipment so that the ambulance is ready for the next run
- Maintains ambulance in efficient operating condition
- Ensures that the ambulance is clean and washed and kept in a neat orderly condition
- In accordance with local, state or federal regulations, decontaminates the interior of the vehicle after transport of patient with contagious infection or hazardous materials exposure.

Additionally the Captain:

- Determines that vehicle is in proper mechanical condition by checking items required by service management. Maintains familiarity with specialized equipment used by the service
- Attends continuing education and refresher training programs as required by employers, medical control, licensing or certifying agencies.

### **Reporting:**

The Captain will report to the EMS Chief. Captains supervise other care providers on scene and can give orders and direction that shall be followed by members on scene.

### **Qualifications:**

- 18 years of age or older
- Complete and successfully pass a background check
- Complete and successfully pass a driving history check
- Professional rescuer level CPR
- Have a current EMT Certification in good standing from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians - NREMT Certification is preferred but not necessary if the individual is State Licensed in Colorado.
- Incident Command Training up to the ICS 300 Level
- A valid driver's license

- Two years or more of service with an ambulance service, preferably the Walsh Ambulance Services or Three years as a certified or licensed Paramedic or Registered Nurse with experience in a supervisory role.

**Physical Requirements:**

Aptitudes required for work of this nature are good physical stamina, endurance, and body condition that would not be adversely affected by having to walk, stand, lift, carry and balance at times, in excess of 125 pounds. Motor coordination is necessary because of uneven terrain, the patient's and Captain's wellbeing, as well as other workers' wellbeing must not be jeopardized.

**EEOC/ADA:**

The Walsh Ambulance Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation.