

Union County Standard Operating Guidelines  
**Fireground Operations**

**Fireground Operations, SOG 4.24**

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**CONCEALED FIREARMS**

1. Intent and Purpose

Securing of weapons (firearms) before treating or transporting patients.

To reduce the potential risk to personnel and the public when responding to calls or transporting a patient that has a weapon (firearms) in their possession.

2. Policy

- a. Personnel should be alert to the potential of a patient having a weapon (firearms) in their possession.
- b. Weapons (firearms) will not be allowed on any patient or persons while being treated or transported by any Union County Fire Department vehicle. The only exception to this is a dually sworn peace officer acting in an official capacity. The officer may only ride in the non-patient area of the vehicle during transport.
- c. If a patient is recognized as carrying a weapon, personnel should immediately request a Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy to respond (if they are not already present on the scene). Personnel should request that the patient disarm him or herself and cause the weapon to be safely secured with a family member or responsible individual. If the patient refuses, members should **withdraw** and wait for the Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy to arrive.
- d. If the patient is unable to comply due to injuries, illness or unconsciousness and a Police Officer/Sheriff's Deputy or responsible person/family member to secure the weapon is not available, personnel will then control the weapon and place weapon in a securable case, into a designated outside/inside compartment of the emergency vehicle. Turn the weapon over to a Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy at the hospital.
- e. If the law enforcement official has not arrived before EMS departure from the hospital, arrangements to secure the weapon with a law enforcement agency will be made before returning to the Fire/EMS station.
- f. **Common Sense shall be the rule and goal when dealing with firearms.**
- g. Be sure to note on the report the name of the person to whom the weapon is being released to.