



PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT



TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER	SERIES	DISTRIBUTION
Standard Operating Procedure	052	2017	All Members of Department
SUBJECT			DATE
Providence Safe Stations			08 Dec 17

1. **PURPOSE:** To direct member's actions when a person(s) presents at any Providence fire station seeking entry into a substance use disorder (SUD) program known from this point forward as Providence Safe Stations (PSS).
2. **SCOPE:** This Standard Operational Procedure applies to all sworn members of the Providence Fire Department.
3. **INTRODUCTION:** Many people with an SUD have limited access to recovery programs due to having little knowledge of where to start other than an emergency room. It has been documented that the window of willingness to enter such program is often very small. We at the Providence Fire Department are establishing a known entry point for those with an SUD to start the process of recovery. The addiction crisis in this state and the country has reached epidemic proportions and Providence Safe Stations will help alleviate this problem.
4. **PROCEDURES:** When a person(s) presents at any Providence fire station asking for entry into the Safe Stations program, the company officer shall be notified immediately. The company shall notify the Bureau of Operational Control (BOC) to be held out of service as with a walk-in.

Example: Engine 3 to fire alarm hold us out of service for a Safe Station walk-in.

The BOC shall hold the company out of service and assign an incident number. The run shall be designated with SSP in the CAD system.

The company officer or his/her designee shall call a number for Safe Station and give the address of the station to the call center and tell them they have someone for the program.

Example: Hi, this is Engine 3 at 325 Washington Street. We have a 30-year-old male from Safe Stations that would like to enter into recovery.

Please ask the person(s) if they have any drugs, or paraphernalia in their possession. If yes, please ask them to dispose of them in the proper place that has been installed in the station. If the person(s) has any weapons, please ask them to put them down and move away from said weapon(s) and immediately contact the Providence Police Department. Please assure the person that there will be no questions asked about the items above, these are a precaution for our own safety.

A member of the company held out of service shall take the vital signs of the patient and write them down on the Providence Safe Stations intake form (see attached form). If the person has

abnormal vital signs, signs of trauma, or medical complaint such as acute chest pain, inform the person they must go to an emergency room before entering into PSS program. The officer shall contact the BOC and ask for a Rescue to be dispatched and a designee shall call the PSS call center and cancel the recovery team.

Example: Hi, this is Engine 3 at 325 Washington Street. We need to cancel the Safe Station pick-up as the person needs to go to the ER first. Thank you. Please confirm that we are canceling at 325 Washington Street.

When the recovery team has arrived, they will be given the bottom two sheets of the intake form. The top sheet will be kept and collected on a bi-weekly basis. When the person is transported by the team from the station, the company will go back in service as follows:

Example: Engine 3 to fire alarm, we are back in service. That was a Safe Station transport.

This will be recorded in the final disposition in the CAD as SST for Safe Station Transport. If the person is transported by Rescue, the company will go in service in normal fashion by telling BOC of said transport.

A Rescue company does not need to be held out of service for vital signs to be taken, any company can do this. Situation should dictate what company is held. If a still box comes in, the Rescue (if in house) can stay with walk-in. Conversely if an ALS run comes in, the Ladder (in house) can stay and the Engine and Rescue can take the run.

Medical Assessment Guidelines:

Criteria for transport to Emergency Department

Heart rate <50 bpm or >130 bpm
Systolic Blood Pressure <90mmHg or >160mmHg
Respiratory Rate <10/min or >28/min
SpO2 <92 at room air or with prescribed oxygen
Temperature > 101 degrees F
Altered Mental Status or GCS <14
Blood Glucose by finger stick <60 or >300
Signs of trauma requiring further evaluation.

This is an interim SOP that shall be updated in the future. Any and all input may be forwarded to Acting EMS Chief, Captain Zach Kenyon via city email at zkenyon@providenceri.gov.

APPROVED:



Steven M. Paré
Commissioner of Public Safety
Acting Chief of Department