

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE – 5.1.7

TOPIC – RECOGNITION OF HEROIC ACTION BY CITIZEN

PURPOSE:

To provide consistency in recognizing citizens who perform a lifesaving action.

GENERAL:

There are times when District personnel will arrive on-scene to find that one or more citizens have performed actions to save another. The District takes the position that each person should be recognized for his or her action in a manner that is appropriate to the situation. It is important that initial recognition occurs soon after the event so that the person being recognized is reinforced for their actions. Formal recognition of the action may take place at a later date in a ceremony.

GUIDELINE:

1. Submit a written report of the action to be recognized as soon after the event as possible to the Prevention Coordinator. Information in the report should include:
 - Time and date of action.
 - Run number of call (if applicable).
 - Narrative of incident, including outcome of patient (if possible).
 - Name and contact information of persons involved, including person to be recognized, person the lifesaving action was performed for, and witnesses.
2. The Prevention Coordinator and Chief will review the report. After further investigation, a decision will be made as to whether the action taken was in fact life-saving and, if so, what actions will be taken to recognize the person.

Possible actions include one or more of the following:

- A certificate or letter describing the lifesaving action taken, presented to the person.
- A plaque listing Lane County Fire District #1, the persons name, a general inscription, and the date, along with a certificate or letter.

Example:

Lane County Fire District #1 recognizes (name) for taking selfless action to save the life of another on (date).

This plaque will be presented in a formal setting, such as a ceremony, unless the person being recognized wishes otherwise.

- Offering a young person a ride in either an engine or tender, and an ice cream or other treat.
- Offering to provide a group of persons involved in a lifesaving action an all-expenses paid lunch.