Central DuPage Emergency Medical Services System

Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act

INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL: 2/02	EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR: _____
REVIEW & APPROVAL: _____	EMSS COORDINATOR: _____
REVISION & APPROVAL: 2/09	

PURPOSE:

To comply with the Illinois Legislature Public Act 92-0408 and give direction to fire department providers in the event that a newborn is left with a fire department employee at a fire station.

POLICY:

It is the intent of the Central DuPage EMS System to provide for the common good of the public and the fire departments we serve. In the event that a newborn is brought to a Central DuPage EMS System Fire Department provider the following procedures shall be followed when a system provider discharges its responsibilities under the Illinois Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act.

Definitions: A "newborn" is defined as 7 days old or younger. "Relinquish" means leaving an infant with **personnel** of a hospital, emergency medical facility, staffed fire station, or police station (designated safe havens). This law states that a parent may relinquish an infant anonymously, and it provides procedures that the designated safe havens and government agencies must follow when a parent relinquishes an infant.

(325 ILCS 2/20)

Fire stations and emergency medical facilities: Every fire station and emergency medical facility must accept and provide all necessary emergency services and care to a relinquished newborn infant, in accordance with this Act.

The act of relinquishing a newborn infant serves as implied consent for the fire station or emergency medical facility and its emergency medical professionals to treat and provide care for the infant, to the extent that those emergency medical professionals are trained to provide those services.

After the relinquishment of a newborn infant to a fire station or emergency medical facility, the fire station or emergency medical facility's personnel must arrange for the

transportation of the infant to the nearest hospital as soon as transportation can be arranged.

If the parent of a newborn infant returns to reclaim the child within 72 hours after relinquishing the child to a fire station or emergency medical facility, the fire station or emergency medical facility must inform the parent of the name and location of the hospital to which the infant was transported.

1. When transporting a newborn that has been left at a Central DuPage fire station, the transporting ambulance shall notify the receiving hospital by telephone or telemetry of the transport and provide any pertinent medical information concerning the newborn.

2. Newborns who are ill or injured are to be treated according to applicable system treatment protocols.

3. Transport of a newborn left at a Central DuPage EMS System fire station shall be considered a provision of non-emergency or emergency medical services, depending on the condition of the newborn, and an EMS response.

(325 ILCS 2/27)

Immunity of facility and personnel: A hospital, police station, fire station, or emergency medical facility, and any personnel of a hospital, police station, fire station, or emergency medical facility, are immune from criminal or civil liability for acting in good faith in accordance with this Act. Nothing in this Act limits liability for negligence for care and medical treatment.