

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY RURAL FIRE BOARD
GUIDELINES AND STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

SUBJECT: FIRE SERVICE CHAPLAINS

GUIDELINES:

The Fairfield County Fire Service will have four (4) volunteer Chaplains appointed by the Fairfield County Fire Board who will serve at the pleasure of the Fire Board or until they resign or are relieved. There will be one (1) Chaplain assigned to each of the three (3) County regions and a Senior Chaplain who will oversee all activities of the Fire Service Chaplains. The Senior Chaplain will report to the Fire Board on a quarterly basis updating the Fire Board on all of the activities of the Fire Service Chaplains. The Senior Chaplain will hold the rank equivalent to a Captain while each Regional Chaplain will hold the rank equivalent to a lieutenant.

The Senior Chaplain will be either a practicing or retired minister with an ecclesiastical endorsement from an established denomination. Each Regional Chaplain can be either a practicing or retired minister or a well respected lay person.

The primary mission of the Fairfield County Fire Service Chaplains will be to provide support and comfort to the firefighters, their families, the fire command, victims and their families as well as other Chaplains or Ministers involved in a particular incident. Beyond the specific incident it will be the responsibility of the Chaplain or Chaplains involved to transition the firefighter personnel, their families, victims and or their families to other religious ministerial, medical or physiological care givers or support systems.