MESCAL J-6 FIRE DISTRICT

STANDARD OPERATING POLICY # 093

Billing Fee Schedule

I. PURPOSE

To protect the interests of District taxpayers by recovering emergency response costs, as authorized by Arizona Revised Statute §48-805(B)(13). The District recognizes that there is a need to respond to emergency incidents occurring in either unprotected areas, or on a transportation route. Often, these calls for service involve persons and/or property who are not providing any revenue to support the availability of the service being used at the time of the emergency.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all emergency incident responses occurring outside of the District boundaries for which no prior billing agreement / contract exists.

III. DEFINITIONS

1. Unprotected Area- An area outside the boundaries of the Mescal-J6 Fire District and not within the boundary of a municipality or other fire district.
2. Transportation Route- any roadway, waterway, railroad right-of-way or airplane route against which no taxes or assessments for fire protection are levied by the Mescal-J6 Fire District.
3. MVA- Motor Vehicle Accident
4. Vehicle- Any motorized vehicle, recreational vehicle, or trailer

IV. PROCEDURE

1. All costs associated with personnel shall billed at cost plus 25%.
2. The bill shall be sent:
   A. In the case of fire suppression service, to the owner of the property involved in such fire, or the property owner's designated agent.
   B. In the case of all motor vehicle accidents and/or fires, whether or not on a transportation route within the District or out of the District, or a public safety incident in an unprotected area, to the person or property receiving District services as a result of the incident, or to that person's designated agent.
3. Whenever more than one party is involved in an incident, the District may apportion fees but shall not be obligated to do so.
4. Whenever there is an incident which involves one or more persons who are taxpayers, and one or more person who are not, non-taxpayers may be billed an amount to be determined by the District.
5. Whenever there is a call to assist with mutual aid to a department, the District will not charge fees to its mutual aid partner. This does not preclude fees to any property owner or individual receiving District services.

V. COST RECOVERY SCHEDULE

A. The following schedule is applicable for emergency response calls of 2 hours or less.

- Level 1- $435.00
  (Minimum amount- Every vehicle accident necessitates this level of scene stabilization and hazardous fluid evaluation)
- Level 2- $495.00
  (Minimum amount- Every vehicle accident requiring the utilization of fluid absorbent)
- Level 3- $525.00
  (Minimum amount- Every vehicle accident with injury necessitates this level of service)
- Level 4- $605.00
  (Minimum amount- Every vehicle fire, or vehicle accident with fire, necessitates this level of service)
- Level 5- $1,800.00
  (Minimum amount- Every vehicle accident requiring forcible extrication necessitates this level of service)
- Level 6- $2,200.00
  (Minimum amount- Every multi-company response for incidents requiring forcible entry and/or helicopter landing zones)

B. Responses greater than 2 hours in duration will be billed by the hour as follows:

1. Personnel- 125% of the applicable rate for each District member responding to the scene, to include a maximum of two personnel to remain on standby in the event backup is needed.
2. Apparatus-
   - $250.00 per hour for Water Tenders
   - $275.00 per hour for Quick Attack and Engines
   - $150.00 per hour for Brush apparatus
   - $175.00 per hour for Command Vehicles
3. Consumables- 110% of the District's total cost to replace. (Floor-Dri and other spill containment supplies, foam and other fire extinguishing materials, etc.)

VI. EXEMPTIONS AND ADDITIONAL CHARGES

A. Fees for materials and supplies used for the benefit of those persons receiving service will be calculated at 110% of the District's cost.

B. Fees not set forth above will be calculated based on the District's direct cost for multi-company response, forcible tool extrication, establishing a helicopter landing zone, or using the District's landing pad.

C. All fees incurred as a result of the District utilizing another governmental agency for the efficient mitigation of the emergency will be passed on directly to the person(s) receiving the service.

D. Fire District Tax Payers will incur fees for:
   1. Fire suppression or Haz-Mat calls occurring within the District if the cause of which is determined to be the result of severe recklessness or criminal intent.
   2. Violations of Arizona "Stupid Motorist Law" as it may be amended from time to time.

VII. BILLING PROCEDURE

A. Personnel at the scene will strive to obtain vital information relating to the name, residential address, mailing address, the name of the insurance provider(s) of all persons involved in the incident, policy numbers, vehicle information, including the VIN number, make, model, year, body style, license plate and driver's license information and any other information necessary for the successful billing of the incident.

B. Whenever this information is unobtainable due to the circumstances of the incident, the District will contact the appropriate law enforcement agency to gain the necessary information.

C. The District will endeavor to send all bills within thirty (30) days of providing service. If arrangements for payment are not received within forty-five (45) days, the bill will be considered delinquent and may be submitted for collection.

D. Fees to District taxpayers arising from the response to motor vehicle accident response will first be billed to the persons applicable insurance provider. If no insurance, or insufficient insurance is in place, the District reserves the right to waive collection.

E. The District may utilize the services of a contractor and/or vendor for the purposes of billing and/or collections.

Approved by the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board on February 27, 2019. Replaces October 12th, 2015