



Scarborough Fire Department

B. Michael Thurlow, Fire Chief

GENERAL ORDER

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

ORDER #: 16-002

DATE ISSUED: 10/23/2015

SUBJECT: WEAPONS HANDLING POLICY

DATE RECORDED:

PER ORDER OF: *B. Michael Thurlow*, Fire Chief

This General order was created in response to the newly enacted State legislation permitting firearms to be carried and concealed without a permit. Since this new law creates an additional concern for scene and personnel safety, and since the hospitals are exempt from the law and will not allow patients or providers into their facilities with weapons, the following procedures are effective immediately:

- Upon all patient contacts ask the patient if they have any weapons before treating or transporting
- In cases of unconscious/unresponsive patients, search them for any weapons before treating or transporting
- If a patient answers affirmatively or a weapon is discovered remain calm and notify IC and Dispatch
- Scarborough Fire personnel may not be properly trained and should not be handling or securing weapons
- Scarborough Police will respond to the scene (if not already present) and will secure any weapons found
- If a weapon is discovered after leaving the scene but before arrival at the Emergency Department, notify the receiving hospital in advance to contact Portland PD which has agreed to assist with securing weapons at the hospitals. The hospital will not take possession of any weapons.
- Weapons shall not be secured in fire department apparatus
- Notify the Duty Officer of any situations where weapons were encountered during an incident and properly document how they were handled and secured.