

Date: December 8, 2004

To: Virginia EMS Agencies and EMS Personnel

From: Michael D. Berg, Manager, Regulation and Compliance

Subject: Emergency Vehicle Operators Course Requirements

The requirement for all Operators of permitted EMS Vehicles to have training in an appropriate Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC) was implemented through the Virginia Administrative Code in July 1995 and remains in effect with the *Virginia Emergency Medical Services Regulations* 12 VAC 5-31 (January 15, 2003). There continues to be confusion regarding the need of EMS Personnel to meet and maintain EVOC training. Numerous organizations and agencies sponsor approved EVOC training courses and issue credentials that show an expiration date or recommended renewal date.

It is the policy of the Office of EMS that this training requirement need not be repeated for an individual to continue to serve as an Operator of an EMS Vehicle.

The Office of EMS does encourage all individuals to maintain and improve upon their knowledge and skill in the field of emergency vehicle operations. Each EMS Vehicle Operator should remain aware of all current state motor vehicle regulations and other statutes regarding operation of an emergency vehicle in Virginia.

It is important to note that although the Office of EMS does not require maintenance of “current” EVOC training credentials, an EMS Agency may implement its own requirements for its EMS Personnel.