TOLEDO FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

C-24 Dog Bites

Emergency Manual

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Policy/Procedure

When crews encounter patients bitten by dogs the following procedures shall apply:

1. Fire personnel shall provide the patient with the necessary medical attention and arrange transport to a hospital, if necessary.

2. Command shall attempt to obtain the name and address of the animal's owner, if available, and to ascertain if the animal has been vaccinated against rabies.

3. Command shall request the response of a Toledo Police crew to assist at the scene and file a report regarding the matter. If the patient has been transported to a hospital prior to the arrival of police officers, Command shall direct Dispatch to inform TPD of the patient's disposition. TPD can meet the patient at the hospital.

4. Command shall instruct Dispatch to contact the Dog Warden for a response to the scene to determine if the animal needs to be confined for observation or testing.

5. If a firefighter is bitten, crews shall provide the member with medical attention and arrange transport to an appropriate hospital. Command shall direct Dispatch to notify the member's Battalion Chief who will determine whether a response to the scene or hospital is necessary.

6. If an area where an aggressive dog is present must be entered due to an emergency, a hand-held extinguisher may be deployed to scare the dog away. A dog that remains aggressive can sometimes be handled by holding out an object for him to bite such as a pike pole or chair.

7. When crews must enter an area that is protected by a watchdog that cannot be secured or restrained, they shall utilize a charged hose line as a protective device. Command shall consider requesting the assistance of the Dog Warden. Command shall also consider directing Dispatch to contact the owner of

the property for a response to the scene, if possible.

As a last resort and with careful consideration regarding the nature of the problem, if the animal cannot be held off with reasonable measures, Toledo Police can dispose of the animal.

See Also:

Permanent link:
https://www.tfrdpolicies.com/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=c_manual:c24

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