

**CCEMS  
OPERATIONS POLICY 100-27  
REVERSE OPERATIONS**

**I. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To protect CCEMS employees and the public from injuries when backing or going in reverse with any CCEMS ambulance.
- 1.2 To set expectations for all employees when backing or going in reverse with any CCEMS ambulance.
- 1.3 To prevent damage to CCEMS vehicles and property when backing or going in reverse with any CCEMS ambulance.

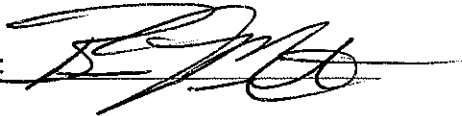
**II. POLICY**

- 2.1 All operations that require backing or reversing of any CCEMS ambulance will have an observer guiding the driver of that vehicle whenever possible.

**III. PROCEDURE**

- 3.1 When reversing a vehicle's direction, there will be an observer present to guide the driver whenever possible.
  - 3.1.1 In the event that a employee is alone in a vehicle, an effort should be made to find someone to observe for them. It could be a CCEMS employee from another vehicle; Hospital, Fire, Law enforcement or REACT personnel; or even a member of the general public.
- 3.2 When reversing vehicle into an area that the driver is familiar with, he/she will visually, or by voice, communicate with the observer as to clearances and distances from obstructions.
- 3.3 When reversing vehicle into an area that the driver is not familiar with; the driver will stop the vehicle, secure in park with parking brake on, exit vehicle, and with the observer, check area for obstruction and confined entry and exit.
- 3.4 The observer may be in the rear of the vehicle, looking out the back window, when a patient is on-board. But the observer and driver must have positive voice contact prior to reverse movement and assure that they have a visual field that allows them to see the area being reversed into.
- 3.5 When no patient is on board, the observer will exit the vehicle and position themselves to the rear and side of the vehicle and make positive visual or voice contact with the driver before reverse movements begin.
- 3.6 In some circumstances, the area being reversed into may be small enough that the observer will need to monitor both sides of the vehicle. When this is necessary, the observer will position themselves to the rear and on side of the vehicle with the larger clearance. As the vehicle reverses into the space, the observer will periodically signal the driver to stop. The observer will move to the other side of the vehicle, check the

clearance between the vehicle and any obstructions, and communicate their findings with the driver. The driver will only proceed after communicating with the observer.

Director: 

Effective: 01/08/2009

Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_