

**Purpose**

It is the purpose of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office to provide guidelines for the operation of agency automated external defibrillators.

**Policy**

The Cecil County Sheriff's Office maintains automated external defibrillators (AED) to assist deputies in performing cardiopulmonary respiration (CPR) for victims of cardiac arrest.

**Procedure**

- A. Deputies shall operate agency AEDs in conformance with the Early Defibrillation Program Protocols set forth by the American Heart Association and the State of Maryland.
- B. Only personnel who are currently certified in the use of AEDs shall operate agency AEDs.
- C. A critical element in the Agency's use of AEDs is their early intervention. Therefore, deputies shall treat any call for service that involves AEDs as a Code 1 response (emergency).
- D. Whenever an AED is used on a patient, the device will NOT be turned over to the attending EMS personnel. The deputy will maintain possession of the AED. The deputy shall attempt to get replacement equipment, i.e. pads and bag valve mask, from the responding ambulance crew or nearest medical facility if applicable.
- E. When not in use, the AEDs shall be stored securely in the trunk or rear storage areas (SUV) of patrol vehicles.

**Reporting**

Whenever an AED is turned on and/or connected to a patient, the deputy who uses the AED shall complete an Offense Report detailing the circumstances that surrounded the operation of the device.

**Training**

The agency AED Coordinator, in conjunction with the Training Coordinator, shall be responsible for training personnel in the use of the AED and for the maintenance of all agency AEDs.