

TEXARKANA, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<i>Effective Date</i> <b>February 1, 2008</b>		<i>Amended Date</i> <b>December 1, 2015</b>		<i>Directive</i> <b>7.39.2 (formally 7.34.1)</b>	
<i>Subject</i> <b>Automated External Defibrillator</b>					
<i>Reference</i>					
<i>Distribution</i> <b>All Personnel City Manager City Attorney</b>		<i>TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference</i> <b>No Reference</b>		<i>Review Date</i> <b>January 1, 2017</b>	
				<i>Pages</i> <b>2</b>	

This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

**SECTION 1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this order is to establish minimum standards and requirements for training of officers using the automated external defibrillators (AED).

**SECTION 2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Department that officers shall successfully complete a training course in CPR and AED operation in accordance with the guidelines approved by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, other nationally recognized associations, or the medical director of the local emergency medical services provider before utilizing the AED. Guidelines and procedures for use of the AED shall be in accordance with the guidelines established as nationally recognized standards and shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's operating procedures.

**SECTION 3 DEFINITIONS**

- A. Automated external defibrillators (AED) - an electronic medical device approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration which is capable of recognizing the presence or absence of cardiovascular fibrillation (rapid irregular contractions) or rapid cardiovascular tachycardia (rapid heart action); is capable of determining, without operator interpretation, whether defibrillation should be performed and automatically prepares to administer the electrical impulse to the heart.
- B. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) - a lifesaving procedure involving closed chest compressions and artificial respiration to an individual who has no pulse and is not breathing.

**SECTION 4 PROCEDURES**

- A. AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) APPLICATION AND USE
  - 1. Assess the patient.
  - 2. If the patient is pulseless, request assistance and begin CPR.
  - 3. Turn on AED and attach the pads.

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*Directive*  
**7.39.2**

*Subject*  
**Automated External Defibrillator**

4. Defibrillate as prompted by the AED.
5. Check pulse.
6. If pulse is present:
  - a. support airway.
  - b. support breathing.
  - c. monitor signs.
7. If no pulse, use CPR for one minute.
8. If no pulse, press analyze.
9. Defibrillate up to three (3) times as prompted by the AED.
10. Check pulse.
11. Pulse present:
  - a. support airway
  - b. support breathing
  - c. monitor
12. If no pulse, CPR one (1) minute.
13. Check pulse, if absent, press analyze.
14. Repeat process following AED prompts until assistance arrives.

**B. RESPONSIBILITY**

1. All members of the Department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.
2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.