



## Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County

### Standard Operating Guideline

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**Subject: Fallen Public Safety Officer Transfer Case**

**Issued by FCABC Board:**

#### **I. Introduction:**

In an effort to establish a standard procedure for transporting the remains of a deceased Active Member Fire Rescue or Law Enforcement Officer as a result of a Line of Duty Death (LODD), or Non-Line of Duty Death, the following policy is supported and adopted by the Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County.

#### **II. Overview:**

The following policy was developed by the Mutual Aid & Communications Committee of the Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County and the Broward County Medical Examiner's Office. The policy is intended to provide a guideline for each fire rescue and law enforcement agency in Broward County the means to request a Fallen Public Safety Officer Transfer Case for safe transportation of the fallen Public Safety Officer from the incident scene or hospital to the Medical Examiner's Office or Funeral Home, utilizing a Rescue Truck.

#### **III. Procedure:**

##### **A. Storage and location of Transfer Cases**

The Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County has purchased three, Galvanized Steel Fallen Public Safety Officer Transfer Cases, which are stored at the Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue Logistics Warehouse, located at 2308B Southwest 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Dania Beach, FL 33312.

Each Case is stored with 6 pair of white uniform ceremonial gloves, along with an American Flag for draping over the case during transport.

##### **B. Procedure for Requesting Transfer Cases(s)**

1. In the event of a Line of Duty Death or Non-Line of Duty Death, the AHJ or their designee will make contact with the Broward Sheriff's Office Regional Communication Central Duty Officer by calling 954-476-4730, to activate the "LODD ALERT". The following information will need to be provided: Agency Name, Contact Person, Contact Telephone Number, Number of Cases requested, and Location where the Transfer Case(s) are required.
2. Once a "LODD ALERT" is received, a member of the BSOFR Logistics Staff will make contact with the requesting agency to work out all of the specifics for receiving of the Transfer Case(s).

##### **C. Procedure for Transporting LODD Public Safety Officer(s)**

1. If the receiving location is at the incident scene, the Medical Examiner **must** be on scene and complete with their investigation or at the discretion of the Medical Examiner Investigator prior to the removal of the Public Safety Officer.

- a. The Fallen Public Safety Officers remains will be placed in a zippered body bag, and then placed in the Transfer Case for transport to the Medical Examiner's Office.
  - b. The Transfer Case will be sealed with Evidence tamper tape by the ME Investigator.
2. If the receiving location is at the hospital, the Public Safety Officer's remains will be prepared by hospital staff for transport, and then the remains will be placed inside the Transfer Case for transport to the Medical Examiner's Office.
    - a. The Transfer Case will be sealed with evidence tamper tape by the ME Investigator or hospital staff.
  3. Once the Medical Examiner's Office has completed their investigation, the Public Safety Officer's remains will be prepared by ME staff for transport to the funeral home.
  4. Once the Public Safety Officer's remains have been placed inside the LODD Transfer case, the American Flag that was delivered with the case will be draped over the case and secured with the supplied flag cord.
  5. A minimum of six (6) pall bearers are needed to safely handle the Transfer Case. It is **recommended** that all pall bearers be wearing white uniform ceremonial gloves while handling the Transfer Case with the remains of the Public Safety Officer to maintain the proper dignity and respect.
  6. The Transfer Case is only meant to be transported in the back of a Rescue Truck. All stretcher hardware must be removed from the unit prior to transporting the Transfer Case. This includes stretcher locking devices, antlers, and hooks.
  7. Once an agency has completed using the Transfer Case(s), arrangements need to be made with BSO Fire Rescue Logistics to return them to storage. Contact can be made by calling, 954-327-8715.

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