

# **Billing and Restitution Policy**

## **Purpose:**

The Mexico Fire Department is engaged in providing fire suppression, fire rescue and fire safety services; and in consideration of the services rendered herby desires to set the following restitution policy for the services that were rendered.

#### **Definition of Services:**

The Mexico Fire Department will seek payment for the cost of services provided by this department when responding to incidents. The Mexico Fire Department shall seek payment for to include but not limited to the following:

## Scene and Safety Control at Traffic Accidents:

Position of the fire apparatus and personnel so as to protect the scene from other traffic and deny entry into the scene of unauthorized personnel. Police will move traffic around the area the Fire department has deemed as the safe zone for the occupants of the vehicles and the rescuers on the scene. Safely staging other incoming agencies responding to this incident may also include a pulled hose line for protection of people on scene from possible fires and fumes or residue from such things as gasoline and air bag propellants. The most important function is establishing incident command of the scene, which is the Fire Departments responsibility at emergency incidents and to coordinate with other responding agencies for their needs at the scene.

### Disentanglement Operations and Assist to Rescue with Extrication from Vehicles:

Any time a person has to be lifted or taken out of an emergency situation and forcible entry is necessary to gain proper access to victims, the Fire Department will coordinate with EMS personnel to resolve/rescue the victims. This could include but is not limited to: car accidents, industrial accidents, confined spaces, below grade rescues, or high angle rescues to name a few. Items needed to affect the rescues may also include but not limited to ropes, ladders, air monitoring equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, hydraulic equipment, shoring, saws, cribbing, and air bags. Other items may be used that are not listed in this paragraph.

# Fluid and Hazardous Substance Mitigation at Traffic Accidents:

Any time the Fire Department has to manage any fluids or hazardous substances through containment or absorption with pads, sand, or other means determined by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Mitigation of all hazardous substances is performed in accordance with DEP regulations.

#### Vehicle Fires:

Any time the Mexico Fire Department has to contain or extinguish a fire in a motor vehicle. This includes but not limited to passenger cars, trucks, Semi truck, tractor trailers, construction equipment farm equipment, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles. This includes the laying of hose lines and position a hand line for the protection of individuals at the scene because of fire, smoke, or leaking fluids such as gasoline. Vehicle fires may also require the use of a suppression agent such as foam to help extinguish the fire.

## Fees for Services:

The following is the cost for services in responding to incidents:

Personnel/Apparatus	Rate/Cost of Services
Engine	\$250.00/hr
Tanker	\$250.00/hr
ATV	\$50.00/hr
Chief	\$35.00/hr
Dep. Chief	\$25.00/hr
Officer	\$20.00/hr
Firefighter	\$18.00/hr
Extrication	\$500.00
Foam	COST
Fuel Surcharge per Vehicle	\$75.00
Utility Vehicle	\$150.00/hr

## **Details for Service:**

- 1. A run/service report shall be completed by the incident commander after each call. Command shall gather all pertinent information that may be required to complete the report. This shall include but not be limited to vehicle makes and models, owners of vehicles, insurance information, and any applicable police report associated with the incident. The report will be entered into a designated computer program or filing system set by the fire chief.
- 2. The Mexico Fire Chief shall determine the total assessable costs and shall in consultation with other Town personnel and entities involved in responding to the incident determine

whether to assess any, all, or part of such costs against any of the Responsible Parties. In making such determinations, the following shall be considered:

- the total assessable costs.
- -the risk the public safety or fire emergency incident imposed on the Town, its residents, and their property.
- -whether there was any injury or damage to person or property.
- -the extent the public safety or fire emergency incident required an unusual or extraordinary use of Town personnel or equipment; and
- -whether there was any damage to the environment.

#### Reserve Account

All money collected from above billing (fire, Rescue), less costs of collection, shall be deposited to the **Mexico Fire Department Capital Equipment Account**.

### Default in Payment

No Mexico resident shall be responsible for any denied, or reduced amount of payment from an insurance claim for Fire Department response.

## **Conflicts with Other Parties:**

This Policy shall not in any way impair or remove the necessity of compliance with any other applicable rule, Policy, regulation, by-law, permit, or provision of law. Where this Policy imposes a greater restriction upon the use of the Mexico Fire Department's services, the provision of the Policy shall control.

### Severability:

Sections of this policy shall be deemed severable. In the event any section, clause, or provision of this Policy is declared invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Policy as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so declared as invalid.

#### Cost Recovery:

The Mexico Fire department shall use a third-party billing agency for claims made to insurance companies as provided. The details in billing will be followed by this policy and by the contract with the billing agency.

#### Review:

This policy will be reviewed every year by the current fire chief.

This policy is in effect from February 15, 2022 until further notice.

Date

Cliff Stewart- Chair

Mat Theriault- Fire Chief

Randal Canwell

Richie Philbrick

Peter Merrill

TJ Williams