

ORDINANCE NO. 698-021224

AMENDING AND RECREATING CHAPTER 28 OF THE VILLAGE'S CODE OF ORDINANCES (FIRE DEPARTMENT) TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR FREQUENT CALL FOR SERVICE, NON-TRANSPORT PROPERTIES IN THE VILLAGE

It is hereby Ordained that the Village of Waterford's Code of Ordinances is amended and recreated as follows as Chapter 28.11, Fire Department:

Purpose. The purpose of the standards in this Section is to regulate and establish fees for service to properties that frequently call 911 for EMS or Fire assistance, but after dispatching the requested response, transport of the patient is declined.

(a) Definitions:

Frequent call property: A parcel, either improved or unimproved, that calls 911 for EMS or Fire services at least three times in a year.

Non-Transport: EMS or Fire services respond to a call for service. The patient declines transport.

1. The Village of Waterford has limited Fire and EMS resources. Each call for service is important, and allocating resources occurs on a "first to call served" basis. This system, whereby the first call received is serviced strains resources when more urgent calls are received while unit(s) are responding to the first call.
2. While the Village recognizes that transport decisions lie with the conscious and alert patient, frequently calling 911 to the same property and declining transport places burdon on scarce EMS and Fire resources that have been and may be needed for emergent calls.
3. Anything that is free is likely to be abused. Calling 911 and declining transport results in essentially free medical care, free examination, and in the case of Frequent Call Properties this may also result in alleviation of legal liability on the part of the property operator.
4. In order to mitigate tying up scarce resources, the Village of Waterford hereby establishes a billing fee of \$95.00, which may be amended from time to time by subsequent action of the Village Board. This fee will be charged to Frequent Call Properties on the 4th Non-Transport call for service of each Calendar Year, and every call an additional \$95.00 charge thereafter.

Introduced: February 12, 2024

Adopted: February 12, 2024

Don Houston, Village President

ATTEST:

Rachel Ladewig, Village Clerk

VOTE: Ayes _____ Noes _____