

THE CITADEL  
The Military College of South Carolina  
171 Moultrie Street  
Charleston, South Carolina 29409

MEMORANDUM  
NUMBER 4-003

11 August 2017

**TRANSPORTING CADETS FOR MEDICAL CARE**

**1. PURPOSE**

This Memorandum outlines The Citadel's policy on transporting sick and injured cadets to receive on-campus and off-campus medical and psychiatric care.

**2. REFERENCE**

S.C. Code Ann. § 59-116-10, *et. seq.* (Law Co-op. 1976)

**3. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Emergency care: Immediate medical care for life-threatening illnesses or injuries or other perilous or traumatic health conditions including but not limited to treatment for severe head trauma, profuse bleeding, loss of breathing, intractable pain, appendicitis, or involuntary psychiatric evaluations.
- B. Urgent care: Rapid medical care for non-life-threatening, yet serious illnesses and injuries, including but not limited to lacerations requiring stitches, minor fractures, pain or foreign bodies in the eye, significant infections, and voluntary psychiatric evaluations.

**4. POLICY**

- A. General: The Citadel Infirmary provides routine outpatient care and limited inpatient care for active members of the South Carolina Corps of Cadets. The infirmary also addresses minor injuries and medical conditions. Cadets may schedule routine appointments with off-campus providers through the infirmary, but must drive themselves or travel by commercial transportation services (*e.g.*, taxi, app-based car service, or bus). Off campus health care providers and medical centers provide treatment for major medical or psychiatric conditions, emergency care, and urgent care.

The Infirmary does not maintain sufficient staff to make "house calls," therefore sick or injured cadets must either walk, or be transported, to the Infirmary to receive care.

B. Transportation for major emergencies, as well as major medical or psychiatric conditions. When the Infirmary staff or the Counseling Center determines that a cadet requires off-campus care as a result of a medical emergency, a psychiatric emergency which requires an involuntary psychiatric evaluation, or severe intoxication, a staff member will contact civilian EMS to provide transport to the Emergency Room; Civilian EMS will bill cadets directly for EMS services. These situations include all emergency care as defined above, and include but are not limited to, those in which a cadet:

1. Is not breathing;
2. Is unconscious or unresponsive;
3. Is bleeding profusely from an open wound;
4. Is unable to walk with assistance, even a short distance, to a vehicle for transport to the Infirmary;
5. Has suffered severe trauma; e.g., motor vehicle accident, fall greater than 10 ft., suspected neck injury. **Do not move a cadet with a suspected neck injury;**
6. Is severely intoxicated; or
7. Needs involuntary psychiatric evaluation for suicidal ideation, homicidal ideation, and/or psychosis;

Note: EMS ambulances are available 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Contact EMS by dialing 911 on any cell phone or campus phone. Immediately thereafter, contact Public Safety by dialing (843) 953-5114, and provide the location of the injured or ill cadet. Public Safety (PSAF) will assist EMS in reaching the injured or ill cadet

C. Transportation to the Infirmary for non-emergent conditions:

1. Cadets who are able to walk, independently or with minimal assistance, will report directly to the Infirmary for evaluation and referral of “urgent care” illnesses and injuries.
2. A cadet unable to travel to the Infirmary independently should contact one of the following:
  - a. During duty hours (weekdays from 0730-1530), the Sports Medicine Department athletic trainers (843) 953-6867 or (843) 953-5447 will evaluate minor injuries and transport non-ambulatory cadets to the Infirmary.

- b. After duty hours, the Coordinating Officer in Charge (COC) or Officer of the Day (OD) or Junior Officer of the Day (JOD) will transport non-ambulatory cadets to the Infirmary. Alternatively, Public Safety (843) 953-5114 may be able to transport cadets to the Infirmary depending on officer availability.
- D. Transportation to off-campus facilities for non-emergent conditions. When the Infirmary staff or psychologist-on-call determines that a cadet requires off-campus, non-emergent medical or psychiatric care, the Infirmary staff or Counseling Center staff will implement one or more of the following options:
1. If, in the opinion of the infirmary staff member or psychologist on-call, the cadet is able to safely drive himself or herself, he or she will do so.
  2. If the cadet is unable to safely drive him or herself or have another cadet drive them, the cadet will travel by commercial transportation services (taxi, UBER or bus), commercial ambulance service (Family Medical Transport: (843) 769-4280; Personal Care Ambulance: (843) 763-1222; or EMS (911), as appropriate.
  3. When time is of the essence and commercial transportation and commercial ambulance service is unavailable or unable to meet the cadet's immediate medical need, PSAF, accompanied by a second PSAF officer, TAC officer, or officer-in-charge, will provide transport, including transport for voluntary psychiatric evaluations, provided: (1) both a public safety officer and a second PSAF officer, TAC officer, or officer-in-charge, is available, and (2) the cadet is not combative or otherwise uncooperative.
  4. In all other cases, cadets will travel to off-campus medical providers by EMS.

## **5. COMPLIANCE**

Cadets who require off-campus care but who are combative or otherwise uncooperative may be arrested, as well as face disciplinary action, in addition to receiving medical attention. All other non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action.

## **6. NOTES**

### **A. Dates of official enactment and amendments:**

Approved by the Commandant on 9 August 2017

Non-substantive change: changed paragraph 4A on page 1 to read "commercial transportation services (e.g., taxi, app-based car service, or bus)."

**B. Responsible Department:**

Infirmary

**C. Responsible Official:**

The Citadel Surgeon

**D. Cross References**

None

**7. RESCISSION**

Memorandum 4-003, dated 9 August 2017, Memorandum 2-17, dated 21 July 2011, and all previous versions are rescinded.

**8. REVIEW**

Biennial.

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

OFFICIAL

//Signed, EFP, 11 August 2017//  
EUGENE F. PALUSO  
Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)  
Commandant