

Article 9 - Charles County**Chapter 54. VOLUNTEER Fire Companies[;], Rescue Squads, MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE UNITS, AND DIVE RESCUE UNITS**

54-1.

IN THIS CHAPTER, "RESCUE SQUAD" ~~MEANS~~ INCLUDES AN AMBULANCE COMPANY OR AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY.

[54-1.] 54-1.1.

A. The County Commissioners shall levy for each fiscal year a fire, [and] rescue, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES tax at the rate of ~~sixteen~~ 6.4 cents per \$100 of assessed value. ~~The tax shall be levied~~ on the assessed value of all taxable real ~~and~~ PROPERTY AND 16 CENTS PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUE ON THE ASSESSED VALUE OF ALL personal property in Charles County.

B. Said fire, [and] rescue, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES tax shall be levied and collected in the same manner as other state and county taxes are now levied and collected.

C. The proceeds collected from the county fire, [and] rescue, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES tax shall thereafter be paid by the County Commissioners twice a year, as determined by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners, to all the VOLUNTEER Fire Departments, [and] rescue squads, including mobile intensive care units, AND DIVE RESCUE UNITS, in Charles County. The proceeds shall be distributed as directed by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners.

D. The Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall review and make recommendations concerning the financing of the VOLUNTEER fire departments, [and] rescue squads, including mobile intensive care units, AND DIVE RESCUE UNITS, in Charles County. Distribution of the proceeds of the fire, [and] rescue, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES tax shall be to the various VOLUNTEER fire departments, [and] rescue squads[;], mobile intensive care units, AND DIVE RESCUE UNITS in accordance with a formula agreed on by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners and the Executive Committee of the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association and the executive committee of the Charles County Association of Emergency Medical Services. If an agreement cannot be reached, the formula employed in the previous year's distribution shall continue in use until an agreement is reached. ~~Each sixteen cents~~ THE REVENUE received from the fire, [and] rescue, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES tax shall be allocated and distributed as follows:

(1) ~~Ten cents~~ 62.5% to the various fire departments AND DIVE RESCUE UNITS of Charles County.

(2) ~~Five cents~~ 31.25% to the various rescue squads and mobile intensive care units of Charles County.