

payment shall be made directly to the volunteer entitled to such benefits. Beginning July 1, 1984, and annually thereafter, this amount shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to the annual increase or decrease as reflected by the consumer price index, using the published May figure each year. This amount shall not exceed a four-percent increase or decrease per year and shall be cumulative.

C. An additional payment of [two dollars (\$2.)] \$2 per month shall be added to the benefits described in Subsection B of this section for each full year of volunteer service in excess of [twenty-five (25)] 25 years. Beginning July 1, 1984, and annually thereafter, this amount shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to the annual increase or decrease as reflected by the consumer price index, using the published May figure each year. This amount shall not exceed a four-percent increase or decrease per year and shall be cumulative. BEGINNING JULY 1, 1990, THE AMOUNT PAYABLE MONTHLY FOR EACH YEAR IN EXCESS OF 25 YEARS SHALL BE EQUAL TO 4% OF THE AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

D. In the event that any active volunteer becomes disabled during the course of [his or her] service as a volunteer fireman or rescue squadman while actively engaged in providing such services, and in the event that the disability prevents the volunteer from pursuing [his] THE VOLUNTEER'S normal occupation and that the disability is of a permanent nature as certified by the Maryland Workmen's Compensation Commission or other competent medical authority as designated by the County Commissioners, then the volunteer is entitled to receive the benefits prescribed in Subsection B of this section and any [such] OTHER benefits [as he may be entitled to], regardless of [his or her] age or length of service. These benefits shall begin on the first day of the first month following the establishment of the permanency of [his or her] THE disability.

E. In the event that any qualified volunteer shall die while receiving benefits, then [his or her] THE surviving spouse is entitled to benefits equal to [fifty percent (50%)] 75% of the volunteer's benefits. These benefits shall terminate upon death or remarriage of the spouse.

F. In the event that a qualified volunteer dies prior to receiving any benefits under this section, [his or her] THE surviving spouse is entitled to benefits equal to [fifty percent (50%)] 75% of the benefits earned by the deceased volunteer. These benefits shall terminate upon death or remarriage. A "qualified volunteer" is defined as:

(1) [one] ONE who has completed [twenty-five (25)] 25 years of certified service; OR