

SUBTITLE 4. FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE SERVICES

10-401.

(A) IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSONS OR ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE ANY FORMALLY ORGANIZED FIRE PROTECTION OR FIRE FIGHTING SERVICE, RESCUE, OR AMBULANCE SERVICE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY UNLESS A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, RESCUE DEPARTMENT, OR AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT IS INCORPORATED, DESIGNATED, AND APPROVED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION, INC., AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

(B) ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION CONVICTED OF VIOLATING THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000 FOR EACH OFFENSE OR IMPRISONMENT FOR A TERM NOT EXCEEDING 6 MONTHS, OR BOTH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT. IN ADDITION, ANY PERSON OR ASSOCIATION VIOLATING THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO BEING ENJOINED FROM VIOLATING THIS SUBTITLE, AND A CIVIL PENALTY MAY BE RECOVERED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000 FOR EACH OFFENSE FROM ANY PERSON VIOLATING THIS SUBTITLE.

(C) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE DEPARTMENTS ORGANIZED BY AND FOR SERVICE TO GOVERNMENT INSTALLATIONS OR PRIVATE INDUSTRY.

10-402.

(A) (1) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITH THE ADVICE OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION, INC., MAY, BY RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PROVIDE SPECIFICATIONS FOR EQUIPMENT, SERVICE AREA DESIGNATIONS, AND OPERATIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE DEPARTMENTS IN THE COUNTY. ANY VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, OR AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT WHICH IS INCORPORATED AND APPROVED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION, INC., AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHICH DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT, SERVICE AREAS, OR OPERATIONS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION, INC., OR ANY OTHER CRITERIA ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE INELIGIBLE FOR ANY APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND ANY APPROPRIATIONS MAY BE DENIED, WITHHELD, OR CURTAILED. ANY FIRE, RESCUE, OR AMBULANCE COMPANY OR DEPARTMENT FAILING TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL SUSPEND OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY AFTER NOTIFICATION THAT A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAS DIRECTED THE CESSATION OF OPERATIONS.

(2) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY PROVIDE LOANS TO APPROVED VOLUNTEER FIRE OR RESCUE COMPANIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE OR RESCUE EQUIPMENT, LAND, OR BUILDINGS TO BE USED BY THOSE COMPANIES. THE LOANS SHALL BE IN THE AMOUNTS AND