

(12) A MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT, RESCUE SQUAD, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT, OR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY WHILE DRIVING AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE IF THE DRIVER:

(I) HOLDS A VALID CLASS C LICENSE ISSUED TO THE DRIVER UNDER ~~§ 16-104~~ § 16-104.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(II) HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE ~~AUTHORITY JURISDICTION POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT OPERATES A FIRE DEPARTMENT, RESCUE SQUAD, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT, OR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT~~ TO OPERATE THE TYPE OF EMERGENCY VEHICLE BEING DRIVEN; AND

(III) IS DRIVING THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE OFFICIAL DUTIES OF THE DRIVER IN OR OUT OF THIS STATE.

(b) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH MANDATORY TRAINING AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS ~~AN AUTHORITY JURISDICTION THAT A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT OPERATES A FIRE DEPARTMENT, RESCUE SQUAD, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT, OR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT~~ MUST IMPLEMENT BEFORE THE ~~AUTHORITY JURISDICTION POLITICAL SUBDIVISION~~ MAY AUTHORIZE AN INDIVIDUAL TO OPERATE AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A)(12) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IN CONSULTATION WITH:

(I) THE MARYLAND FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION;

(II) THE MARYLAND FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION;

(III) THE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND;

(IV) THE METROPOLITAN FIRE CHIEF'S COUNCIL; AND

(V) THE MARYLAND FIRE AND RESCUE INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND.

(C) An individual who is subject to the provisions of this section and who fails to comply with the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

Approved May 13, 2003.