



GUIDELINES FOR VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL

(Probationary Period for All Volunteer Personnel is One Year)

Persons interested in becoming volunteer members of the Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue Department should obtain a pre-application at our Headquarters, Station #1, located at 4425 Burns Road, complete the application and return it to the Board of Directors for an interview. Persons submitting an application will report to a General Meeting on the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM.

After meeting the Board of Directors, the prospective member will be invited to visit the Department facilities, observe training and attend events of the Department for a period of time, normally one month. This occurs the second, third and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 PM. The prospective member may be voted into membership at a general meeting which are held the second Tuesday of the month.

For the first four months, the new members shall:

- Attend all scheduled training which is announced monthly
- Log-in ride time at assigned station (24 hours per month)
- Be issued official uniforms
- Use turnout gear set aside for training purposes
- Expect a very military regime
- Be reviewed quarterly by the Board Members

During the probationary period, the new member will take and pass a prescribed training course for volunteer personnel as directed by the State of Florida and will be tested by the Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue Department. During the first year, probationary volunteers will ride out at their assigned station.

After passing the volunteer course and Department test, the new member will be issued a uniform and turnout gear, if available. The new member is now allowed to ride with their mentor and log at least 24 hours of on-duty-time per month.

There is one allowable exception to the above guidelines. If the new member has completed Florida Firefighter Standards and is an EMT or Paramedic, they will be allowed to ride at the outstations.

At the conclusion of the one year probationary period, the new member will be elected to full membership and be required to log 36 hours per month of training, ride time and meetings. Riding assignments will be designated by station officers.

At no time will a volunteer member take the place of a career member on a crew. Volunteer members will be assigned to augment normal crew assignments. Uniforms are to be worn during Department functions, training and ride time only!

Lieutenant Shawn Reid and Senior Fire Department staff will review training reports and station volunteer log regularly.