

	Nokomis Fire Department		
	Date	Directive	Number
	April 30, 2019	#1	#102
		Category	
		Administrative Policy Abandon Baby Policy	

#### PURPOSE:

To provide a procedure to deal with the management of newborn infants abandoned to Fire Stations in compliance with Florida Law (F.S. 383.50).

#### POLICY:

Nokomis Fire Department personnel will accept any “newborn infant” that is abandoned, whether delivered to the station or otherwise brought to their attention. The infant shall be medically evaluated and transported to the closest appropriate medical facility without delay.

#### PROCEDURE:

A newborn baby found or left at a Fire/EMS Station, regardless of the circumstances, must be taken custody of in accordance with the law.

1. Obtain Alarm # and begin patient care report. Call for a rescue to respond.
2. Follow general pediatric protocols for newborns and evaluate the mother, if present and willing.
3. Obtain as much medical information pertaining to the pregnancy and delivery as possible, the Law states that the mother is not obligated to answer any questions.
4. Transport to the closest appropriate medical facility.

According to the Law, unless there are signs of abuse or neglect, law enforcement does not need to be notified.

A complete guideline booklet and videotape explaining the law and procedures has been provided to all stations. All personnel will review and become familiar with this procedure.