DATE: December 22, 2016
TO: Communications Personnel
FROM: Garrin Smith, PDA
SUBJECT: Inland Water Rescues

The Fire-Rescue Department is requesting that all calls involving inland water rescues, i.e. victims trapped and surrounded by bodies of water (either standing or moving), be transferred to the Fire-Metro Communications Center. These types of rescues are most frequently encountered during heavy rainstorms and vary in complexity from vehicles stationary in flooded intersections, to victims free floating and being rapidly carried by moving water in a river, creek or culvert.

This change in protocol does not affect rescues on any beaches, bays or oceans. These calls often involve victims drowning in natural bodies of water and should continue to be transferred to the Lifeguard Communications Center.