

EMS Profile: Pantego Fire-Rescue

About us: Pantego Fire-Rescue is a fully professional fire-rescue department within the City of Pantego, located in Tarrant County, Texas, and found within the greater City of Arlington. The department was first organized in 1949 and has maintained ambulance transport capability since 1973. Currently the department operates two MICU-capable ambulances and two ALS-capable fire apparatus. Patient care is advanced and proactive under the medical direction of Roy Yamada, MD. Field treatment capabilities include rapid sequence intubation, which has been utilized to save numerous lives.

Number of personnel: The department is led by Chief of Public Safety Thomas Griffith and Assistant Fire Chief Robert Coker. The department endeavors to maintain a high level of EMS certification among its 11 certified firefighters; paramedic staffing is presently at 80 percent. Additional personnel include two EMS instructors, EMS equipment and medication manager, and an EMS coordinator/training officer. The department maintains ALS service at all times through a traditional 24/48 fire service shift. Although Pantego is small in area, its medical influence reaches far through its automatic aid with the City of Arlington Fire Department and the contracted EMS provider for the City of Arlington, which includes a potential 100-square-mile response area. Pantego also has mutual aid agreements with the cities of Mansfield, Kennedale and Forest Hill, and is a signatory of the Tarrant County Fire and EMS Mutual Aid agreement.

Number of units: The department operates out of one station. The Town of Pantego has a resident population of 2700 within a one-square-mile area, but it has a daily motoring population in excess of 100,000, making it one of

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	Office of EMS Trauma/Systems MC 1876	Rate Paid
	PO Box 149347	At Austin, Texas
	Austin, Texas 78714-9347	



the busiest communities for its size in Texas. Pantego is considered an urban community due to its population density and its proximity to heavily populated areas. Pantego's EMS system is a licensed transport service operating with two MICU-capable ambulances.

Number of calls: Because of the high volume of daily traffic, Pantego's personnel receive experience with a wide range of medical issues. State Highway 303 transects a portion of Pantego from east to west, and a major north-south route runs from Interstate-20 on the south side through Pantego to the north of Arlington. Total EMS responses for 2012 were 612 including calls within Pantego and Arlington. Response times for Pantego proper are an average of three minutes.

Current activities: Educational offerings for Pantego Fire-Rescue

personnel include onsite EMS instruction from Tarrant County College EMS instructors. Our medical director, Dr. Roy Yamada, is constantly evaluating our protocols for currency and evaluating our performance through an extensive quality assurance program. Pantego had the honor of the first life saved using the Vidacare EZ-IO. The department was also recently successful in obtaining more than \$100,000 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the purchase of Lifepak-15 monitors. Last spring the department demonstrated its dedication to the community's youth by organizing a Broken Promises program. The Broken Promises program simulated a fatality DWI accident for local private high school students and included the involvement of PHI Air Medical.