



Coffee Break Training - Emergency Medical Services

EMS Mass-Casualty Support Vehicles

No. EMS-2012-4 February 15, 2012

Learning Objective: The student shall define Mass-Casualty Support Vehicle resources in accordance with National Incident Management System (NIMS) standards.

The National Integration Center (NIC) has developed resource typing definitions for the Mass-Casualty Support Vehicle, as well as other emergency medical services (EMS) resources. Ordering resources that have been typed using these definitions makes the resource request and dispatch process more accurate and efficient.

The currently-typed Mass-Casualty Support Vehicles are based on their equipment capability to treat patients. Mass-Casualty Support Vehicles are not patient-transport capable, but are specifically for equipment and supplies. Types are defined below: (Full typing definition can be found in the Typed Resource Definitions-EMS/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 508-3 March 2009.)



Mass Casualty Support Vehicles
courtesy of:
Montgomery County (MD) Fire & Rescue Service District of Columbia Fire and EMS Department

	Type I	Type II	Type III
Personnel	4 (includes one designated lead)	4 (includes one designated lead)	2 (includes one designated lead)
Equipment to treat/triage patients	100	50	25

Each Mass-Casualty Support Vehicle will vary in specific design, as vehicles are locally purchased and designed. Designs vary from original specifications based on expected equipment load and layout (an example is the Montgomery County photo) to converted vehicles, including ambulances redesignated to mass-casualty support (an example is the District of Columbia vehicle photo). Due to size, storage, and maintenance concerns, vehicles are often regionally located with access via mutual-aid agreements.

The Mass-Casualty Support Vehicles pictured are part of a regional multicasualty incident (MCI) plan covering the National Capital area. Several are prepositioned around the region with Multipatient Medical Transport (MPMT) vehicles, available locally as needed and automatically assigned as mutual-aid resources across the region.

The NIC is continuously updating resource type definitions. For current details, see the FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) Resource Center at www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/ResourceMngmnt.shtm