

## Agency Name

### Transit Policies and Procedures

<b>Subject</b>	Bloodborne Pathogens Protection
<b>Section</b>	Safety
<b>Effective Date</b>	
<b>Approved By</b>	
<b>Approval Date</b>	

#### **Purpose**

Ensure that the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) regulations for bloodborne pathogens are followed.

#### **Definitions**

*Bloodborne Pathogens:* Infectious microorganisms in the human blood that can cause diseases in humans, such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

*Biohazard:* A biological or chemical substance that is dangerous to people or the environment, such as human and animal blood, tissues, and bodily fluids.

#### **Procedure**

Develop procedures for addressing biohazardous spills and require bloodborne pathogen protection training for all employees annually. Instruct employees to immediately report any bloodborne pathogen exposure to their supervisor.

If a biohazardous spill occurs due to a vehicle accident or onboard injury, the Driver's first priority is to notify emergency personnel and administer first aid to injured passengers. Drivers are required to use personal protective equipment (PPE) when administering first aid. Biohazard spills may also occur as the result of vomiting or loss of bladder control.

In the event of a biohazardous spill, the Driver should perform the following actions:

- Inform dispatch of the situation. If instructed to wait for assistance, secure the vehicle and wait for medical personnel.
- Locate the biohazard kit on the vehicle without stepping in the spill.
- Put on PPE before administering first aid or cleaning any potentially dangerous bodily fluid spill, such as blood, vomit, urine, or defecation.
- Cover the spill area with the disinfectant found in the biohazard kit.
- Use the appropriate supplies from the biohazard kit to dispose of any items that may be contaminated by placing the items in the orange biohazard bag.
- If the clean up includes broken glass or other sharp objects, use the tongs found in the kit to place the items in the puncture proof container found in or near the biohazard kit.

- If there is a possibility that the orange biohazard bag may rip or tear, use a second bag for reinforcement.
- Dispose of all biohazard materials in the appropriate location as identified by the Agency.
- Wash hands with soap and disinfectant as soon as possible.
- Complete and submit all required incident report forms.

The agency will provide the Hepatitis B vaccination to “at-risk” employees free of charge. This vaccination is a series of three shots administered over a six-month period. An employee may choose to accept or decline the vaccination. If an employee declines the Hepatitis B vaccination, an OSHA waiver must be signed indicating refusal. If the employee decides to accept the vaccination at a later date, it will be provided free of charge.

### **Responsibilities**

The Transit Director is responsible for providing all employees with training on bloodborne pathogen protection, equipping the vehicles with biohazard kits, and ensuring that all “at risk” employees have been offered the Hepatitis B vaccination. Employees are responsible for following the procedures outlined in this policy.