MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
13725 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017
Phone: 314-514-0900
www.monarchfpd.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monarch Fire Protection District Launches Prehospital Blood Program to Save Lives of Bleeding Patients

CHESTERFIELD, MO – Monarch Fire Protection District has begun carrying blood products on its EMS Captain vehicle, becoming one of the region's advancing EMS agencies to bring hospital-level hemorrhage treatment directly to the scene of an emergency. In partnership with Impact Life, Monarch paramedics now carry packed red blood cells and liquid plasma, giving crews the ability to begin blood transfusion for critically bleeding patients before they ever reach a hospital.

For residents of our community, this program represents a meaningful advancement in emergency care. Severe bleeding from trauma, childbirth complications, and other medical emergencies can take a life in minutes. Every minute matters, and until now, patients in our community had to wait until arrival at the hospital to receive blood. Today, that critical treatment starts the moment our critical care paramedics reach a patient's side.

"This program exists because our community deserves the best possible chance of survival when the worst happens," said Nick Smith Deputy Chief of EMS. "Blood cannot be replaced by IV fluids alone. When someone is bleeding to death, what they need is blood, and now our paramedics can give them exactly that in the back of the ambulance, wherever the emergency finds them."

A Program Years in the Making

Bringing blood products into the field is not a simple undertaking. It required Monarch to build an entirely new clinical, logistical, and administrative framework from the ground up. Over many months, the district worked closely with Medical Director Dr. Mike DeFilippo of Washington University Medicine and its regional blood supplier, Impact Life, to develop clinical protocols, cold chain storage systems, product rotation schedules, and documentation standards that meet the same rigorous safety requirements as a hospital blood bank.

Every paramedic authorized to administer blood in the field completed dedicated training before the program began, and Monarch's crews now conduct daily monitoring of blood product storage temperatures to ensure the products remain safe and effective at all times. This work reflects a broader, ongoing commitment at Monarch to bring innovative, evidence-based treatments out of the hospital and into the field, where they can make the greatest difference.

What This Means for Our Community

This program means that a resident involved in a serious car crash, a mother experiencing a postpartum hemorrhage, or anyone suffering a life-threatening bleeding emergency now has access to a level of prehospital care once available only in a small number of advanced EMS systems nationwide. It is a direct investment in the survival of our neighbors, our families, and our first responders themselves.

Monarch Fire Protection District is grateful for its partnership with Impact Life, whose supply, guidance, and quality oversight make this program possible, and remains committed to pursuing every opportunity to bring advanced, lifesaving care closer to the residents it serves.

Media Contact

Nick Smith, Deputy Chief of EMS

Monarch Fire Protection District

smith.n@monarchfpd.org

Office: 314-514-0900 x2207 | Cell: 314.581.2207

###