

	TRAVIS COUNTY ESD #5 MANCHACA FIRE RESCUE Department Memorandum	M2017-004
		Effective: 6/27/2017
		Expires: NA
	Assistance to Sam Porter	From: BC Poole

In the days that have followed Sam Porter’s accident, the membership of this organization and our neighboring departments have stepped up to show their support and care for one of their own. There are still many unanswered questions as to his condition, ongoing treatment and eventual recovery. One thing that we do know is that his road to recovery will be lengthy and he and his family will need the continued support of his fire service family.

With that in mind, the following actions have been put into place or are in the process of being enacted to assist Sam and his family.

Shift Coverage:

Chief Barron has authorized the use of one-way trades to help cover Sam’s shifts. This will allow us to save his available PTO for use when coverage is not available. One-way trades involve a member volunteering to work the front half of a trade for Sam without the expectation of a payback of the second half. If you wish to assist in this manner, please check When to Work and coordinate with Lt Padalecki to be placed on the schedule.

Chief Barron has also authorized the donation of leave to Sam Porter. Members that wish to donate a portion of their leave balance to Sam should contact Jennifer and specify an amount you wish to donate.

We are also investigating the option for members from other organizations to donate time to help cover Sam’s shifts. There are a few logistical issues to resolve before we are able to go live with this. More to come on this option.

Continued family support:

Lieutenant Barlow is looking to coordinate a fire department presence at the hospital on a consistent basis to help support the family. If you are interested in helping to cover watches at the hospital, please get with Lt. Barlow. He is working with firefighters from Manchaca as well as other departments in this effort.

Local 5128 President Mike Harper is working on a gofundme page for donations and there are preliminary discussions about a fund raising event. He will be getting more information out about that as it comes available via email and social media.

I cannot tell you how proud I am of our fire service family for being there in the time of need for one of our members. However, it does not surprise me. This is an example of the core value that drives us to do what we do – serve others. Thank you so much for all you do and for being a part of our Manchaca family.