

**Policy and Procedures**

*Title:* Abandoned Infant Protection Act

*Date issued / last revision:* September 1, 2002

*Date effective:* Immediately

## Abandoned Infant Protection Act

*Statement:*

NY State has enacted the “abandoned infant protection act.” Under this act, parents, guardians or other legally responsible persons who are unable to care for their infants may anonymously and safely leave their infants in the care of a responsible person at a hospital, police station, fire station or a responsible person at another safe location.

Cooperstown Medical Transport, Inc. (CMT) personnel and stations could be considered a ‘safe harbor.’

*Purpose:*

This policy is to provide guidelines if personnel are faced with the given situation.

*Scope:*

This policy applies to all employees, full time, part time, per diem, interns and observers.

*Policy:*

1. If anyone contacts you wishing to exercise their rights under this act:
  - a. Accept the infant.
  - b. The infant becomes a patient and should be treated accordingly.
  - c. The individual with the infant can only be asked questions relating to the health, welfare and medical history of the infant.
  - d. Advise dispatch that you will be on a call.
  - e. The patient will be transported to the nearest hospital.
  - f. Complete a PCR as you normally would.
  - g. Complete an incident report.