



Date: August 28, 2008

To: Eastern Area Interagency Fire Community

Subject: Rental Car Use on Fire Assignment - Off Road Driving Liability

As per the U.S. Government Vehicle Rental Agreement, managed by the Defense Travel Management Office, utilized by SATO government travel center, there is no allowance for the use of rental vehicles off road when on fire assignment. If a vehicle should be rented for off-road use, the HOST UNIT OR INCIDENT SHOULD BE CONTACTED TO MAKE THOSE ARRANGEMENTS. THE HOST UNIT OR INCIDENT CAN WORK THRU THEIR PROCURMENT PERSONNEL OR BUYING TEAM TO RENT A VEHICLE OR UTILIZE LOCAL EERA'S OR GSA CONTRACTS. An EERA may not be written with an employee, regular or AD.

If a resource order states in special needs that a "rental car is authorized" it is highly recommended that the home dispatch center work through EACC to make arrangements for the incident to provide a vehicle. Otherwise, if the incident is unable to provide a vehicle and the rental car reservation is made through SATO utilizing the U.S. Government Vehicle Rental Agreement, any costs incurred for damages, or the detailing and cleaning of a vehicle driven off road would be the liability of the driver. This driver would be deemed in non-compliance of the specifications of this agreement. The provisions of the contract, including items covered, are void when the conditions of rental have been violated, which includes driving off paved, graded, state or professionally maintained roads, or driveways.

The U.S. Government Vehicle Rental Agreement will be posted to the EACC website under Incident Business Management at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/>.

If you have any questions, I can be contacted at 218-335-8630.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Kathleen Lahti*

KATHLEEN LAHTI, Chair
Incident Business Working Team, Eastern Area Coordinating Group

jberst
Gpellin
Lmcintyrekelly