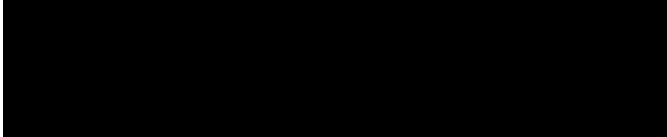


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- d. There are also other non-legal concerns that the Board should consider when exposing children as young as 13 to emergency and/or trauma situations.
 - i. I have spoken with Lonzo and as the EMS Director, I believe he agrees this is not the best course for the County.

5. **Legal Liability of the County in regard to Volunteer Firefighting Companies**

- a. Pursuant to the Virginia Code 27-6.02. “In cases in which a county, city, or town elects to contract with or provide for the provision of firefighting services by a fire company pursuant to clause (ii) of subsection A, the fire company shall be deemed to be an instrumentality of the county, city, or town and, as such, exempt from suit for damages done incident to fighting fires therein.”
 - i. Therefore, the County does have liability for the actions of the all the volunteer firefighting organizations as we do not have a “government operated” firefighting services.
 - ii. Sovereign Immunity does apply and will cover most instances of negligence, however sovereign immunity is not absolute and can be lost as a defense if there is gross negligence.