**This is a template for a hepatitis C preemployment testing declination form. You may modify this template to meet local needs, and MTAS recommends that your city attorney review this form before you use it.**

**Hepatitis C Testing Declination Form**

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus. The hepatitis C virus is usually spread when someone comes into contact with body fluids from an infected person. As an emergency rescue worker, you could experience an occupational exposure to body fluids that could be infected with the hepatitis C virus.

Tennessee law (T.C.A. § 7-51-209) provides a rebuttable presumption that any emergency rescue worker who suffers a condition or impairment of health that is caused by the hepatitis C virus, and that results in total or partial disability or death shall be presumed to have a disability suffered in the line of duty, unless the contrary is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the exposure did not occur elsewhere. Testing for hepatitis C as part of the preemployment medical examination can establish that you were free of the hepatitis C virus at the time of testing. In order to be entitled to the presumption established by state law, the test must be negative for evidence of the hepatitis C virus.

The <name of employer> offers voluntary preemployment testing for the hepatitis C virus at no charge to the applicant as part of the preemployment physical examination. You are free to decline this testing, and if you decline, it will not affect your status as a potential employee.

I understand that due to the possibility of occupational exposure to body fluids or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring the hepatitis C virus (HBC) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be tested for the hepatitis C virus at no charge to myself. However, I decline the hepatitis C testing at this time. I understand that by declining this testing I may not be entitled to the presumption established by state law if I later contract the hepatitis C virus. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to body fluids or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be tested for hepatitis C vaccine, I can receive the testing at no charge to me.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_