



NO NEED FOR THIS POLICY

Contra Costa County Operations

Patient Focused - Customer Centered - Caregiver Inspired

SOP# 217 Paramedic First Responder Effective: January 1, 2010 Updated: May 1, 2016	Approved By: Michael Johnson Regional Director
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

A. Purpose

First Responder programs are implemented to provide enhanced ALS Coverage. American Medical Response Contra County may provide permanently and temporarily staffed First Responder Units including Quick Response Vehicles (QRV), and Supervisor Units. The policy below emphasizes the unique needs of these units.

B. Policy

1. Staffing

- a. Paramedic non-transport units are fully equipped advanced life support vehicles, staffed with a minimum of one paramedic, and dispatched simultaneously with an emergency transport unit.
- b. Paramedics assigned to non-transport units shall meet the following minimum qualifications for staffing such units:
 - i. Current accreditation in Contra Costa County,
 - ii. At least three years full-time field experience as a paramedic within the last four years,
 - iii. At least two years full-time paramedic field experience in Contra Costa County,
 - iv. No actions against state license within the past two years,
 - v. Must be a current full time AMR Contra Costa County employee.
- c. Paramedics meeting the minimum requirements above shall be considered for selection to the Paramedic First Responder Qualified list.
 - i. A selection process shall take place from time to time as determined necessary to assure staffing and qualification levels.

2. Training

- a. Paramedics assigned to First Responder units must have the training and experience necessary to function safely as the sole care provider until the fire department first responders and the transport units arrive.
- b. Prior to functioning solely as a Paramedic First Responder, the employee must complete the following:

SOP 217 Paramedic First Responder

- i. Field orientation period with an appropriate Field Training Officer.
 - a) This orientation shall include, but not be limited to, a written test, map test and area familiarization, AMR and public safety rules familiarization.
- ii. Complete a Boat Patrol/Boat Safety orientation with the East Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and/or the Contra Costa County Sheriff Boat Patrol.

3. Expectations

- a. Paramedic First Responders shall follow all AMR Policies and Procedures
- b. Paramedic First Responders shall follow the current System Status Management Plan and First Responder Operational Guideline.
- c. Paramedic First Responders shall encourage teambuilding with the agencies they partner with at stations, community events and responses.
 - i. Paramedic First Responders shall follow the rules and regulations of the public agency in situations where they are housed in stations owned/operated by other public safety agencies.
 - a) Paramedic First Responders shall not be compelled to follow those rules and regulations if they are in conflict with AMR Rules and Regulations or the Collective Bargaining Agreement between AMR and NEMSA.
 - b) If the Paramedic First Responder is in doubt about the interpretation, following of, and enforcement of public agency rules, the employee shall contact the Division Captain.
 - ii. Paramedics First Responders shall share in the daily duties of that location where stationed with the personnel of that public agency, especially those duties that have direct impact on First Responder Operations. (Example: Cleaning of the stations, kitchen details, shared equipment and supplies management, etc.)
 - iii. Paramedic First Responders shall participate in Community Service Activities in partnership with the public agency where assigned. These may include, but are not limited to, blood pressure checks, school demonstrations, etc.
 - iv. Paramedic First Responders shall participate in scheduled and unscheduled training with the public agency where assigned, including as an instructor.
 - a) AMR employees shall not function outside their scope of practice, or involve themselves in training that puts themselves outside the role of the AMR paramedic.
 - b) The Field Operations Supervisor shall be made aware of formal training involving Paramedic First Responders and public agencies prior to that training.

C. Enforcement of Policy

1. Violations of this policy are subject to corrective action up to and including termination of employment.