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The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, State of California, ordains as follows:

#### **DIVISION ONE GENERAL**

#### Sec. 9.05.010 Title.

This Chapter shall be known as the Emergency Medical Response Services (EMS) Ordinance (EMRO) of Mendocino County. (Ord No. 3791 XXXX (part),) adopted 1991 XXXX.)

Sec. 9.05.020 Findings.

# 1. The County of Mendocino (hereinafter, "County") has established an EMS system pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797.200, *et seq.* and is required to ensure that the EMS system contains an organized pattern of readiness and response services.

- 2. The County will designate a Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) to administer the County EMS system pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797.200, et seq.
- 3. The use of public and private agreements and operational procedures as provided for in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.204 will assist the County in achieving the required organized pattern of readiness and response services.
- 4. The LEMSA shall develop and implement protocols, policies, and guidelines setting forth minimum requirements for the permitting and operation of ground and air EMS providers for the purpose of providing the organization and resources required to maintain an EMS system that meets the health and safety needs of the citizens of the County.

## Sec. 9.05.020 Oscope and Intent.

- 1. Scope. It is the scope of this Chapter to coordinate all EMS providers in partnership with the established Mendocino County Emergency Medical Care Committee and EMS Agencythe LEMSA in order to provide a delivery system that best serves the citizens of Mendocino County.
- 4.2.Intent. It is the intent of this Chapter to provide medical direction and management of emergency medical services EMS in Mendocino the County in conformance with California Health and Safety Code Section 1443, Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, Welfare and Institution Code Section 17000, Vehicle Code Section 2512, and Government Code Section 37101.

- 2.3. Medical control shall be maintained in the following manner:
  - a. Prospectively, by written medical policies and procedures to provide standards for patient care;
  - b. Immediately, by direct voice communication between certified EMT-II, EMT-P (paramedic) or MICN (field) and authorized <a href="base">base</a> hospital physician; and
  - Retrospectively, by means of medical audit of field care and continuing education. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

# Sec. 9.05.030 040 Definitions.

- 1. "Agency" means the Mendocino County Health Department, designated by the Board as the local EMS Agency pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797, et seq.
- 2. "Advanced EMT"; see "Class of service."
- 4.3. ALS. See "Class of Service."
- 2.4. "Ambulance" means any privately or publicly owned vehicle especially designed, constructed, modified, equipped, arranged, maintained, and operated for the sole purpose of transporting sick, injured, wounded, invalid, convalescent or otherwise incapacitated persons, and expectant mothers.
- 3.5. "Ambulance dispatch" means the emergency medical serviceEMS dispatch system designated by the EMS AgencyLEMSA.
- 4.6. "Ambulance driver" means any person who drives an ambulance in the County.
- 5.7. "Ambulance operator" means any person or entity who, for monetary, <u>public service</u>, or other consideration, or as an incident to any other occupation, transports, in one or more ambulances one or more persons needing medical attention or services from any location in the County.
- 8. "Ambulance service provider" refers to any air or ground ambulance providing any class of service.
- 6.9. "Ambulance support vehicle" means vehicles, other than privately owned ambulances, used by privately owned ambulance operators exclusively to transport medical supplies, lifesaving equipment, or personnel to the scene of an emergency when <a href="such">such</a> a request for medial supplies, lifesaving equipment, or personnel had <a href="has been made by any person or public agency responsible for providing emergency medical transportation">supplies</a>, lifesaving equipment, or personnel had <a href="has been made by any person or public agency responsible for providing emergency medical transportation">supplies</a>, lifesaving equipment, or personnel had <a href="has been made by any person or public agency responsible for providing emergency medical transportation">supplies</a>, lifesaving equipment, or personnel had <a href="has been made by any person or public agency responsible for providing emergency medical transportation">has been made by any person or public agency responsible for providing emergency medical transportation</a>.

- 7.10. "Authorized Registered Nurse" (ARN)" or "Authorized Registered Nurse" means a nurse as defined by Health and Safety Code Section 1797.56.
- 8.11. "Base hospital" means as is designated by local EMS Agencythe LEMSA as defined under Health and Safety Code Section 1797.59.
- 9.12. BLS. See "Class of Service."
- 10.13. "Board" means the Board of Supervisors, County of Mendocino.
- 44.14. "Central dispatch" means the EMS dispatch system.
- 12.15. "Certificate" or "License" means a specific document issued to an individual denoting competence in the named area of pre-hospital care by the agency, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.61, 1797.62, 1797.63, and 1797.210.
- 13.16. "Class of service" means the level or levels of complexity of field emergency medical services EMS that may be provided by the permittee and/or certified person. These are:
  - a. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) is a person who has completed a state-approved EMR course that meets or exceeds the national EMS education standards for EMR and functions within the state and LEMSA-approved scope.
  - a.b. Basic Life Support (BLS) as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.60. The support personnel for BLS are Emergency Medical Technicians—IEMTs, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.80.
  - b. Limited Advanced Life Support (LAS) as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.92. The support for LAS are Emergency Medical Technicians - II, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.82.
  - c. Advanced Life Support (ALS) as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.56.
     The support personnel for BLS are EMTs, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.80.
  - d. \_Advanced Life Support Paramedic (ALS-P) personnel are paramedics as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.84.
  - e. Advanced Life Support Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (ALS N) Nurses defined in Health and Safety Code Section (1797.56.
- 14.17. "Code 3" means the authorized use of red lights and siren during an emergency response or transport.
- 15.18. "County" means the County of Mendocino, State of California.

- 16.19. "Critical care transport" (CCT) means any entity or person who transports a patient in circumstances where the skill level required in the care of that patient during export exceeds the BLS\_ALS scope of training.
- <u>17.20.</u> "Emergency call" means a request for dispatch of an ambulance to any emergency, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 1797.
- 18.21. "Emergency Medical Care Committee" or "(EMCC)" means the Emergency Medical Care Committee of Mendocino the County appointed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors authorized by Health and Safety Code 1797.270 et seq.
- 19.22. "Emergency Medical Services" or "(EMS)" means services performed in response to an emergency medical call.
- 23. "Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Aircraft Designated Dispatch Center" means the agency which has been designed by the EMS Agency for the purpose of coordinating air ambulance or rescue aircraft response to the scene of a medical emergency within the jurisdiction of the EMS Agency.
- 20.24. "EMS <u>a</u>Aircraft <u>Sservice</u>" means any aircraft service utilized for the purpose of prehospital emergency patient response and transport. EMS <u>Aaircraft Sservice</u> includes air ambulances and all categories of rescue aircraft as defined in Title 22. These are as follows:
  - a. "Air aAmbulance" means any aircraft specially constructed, modified or equipped, and used for the primary purposes of responding to emergency calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has a minimum of two (2) attendants certified or licensed in advanced life supportALS.
  - b. "Rescue aircraft" means an aircraft whose <u>primary</u> usual function is not pre-hospital, emergency patient transport but which may be utilized, in compliance with local EMS policy, for pre-hospital, emergency patient transport when use of an air or ground ambulance is inappropriate or unavailable. Rescue aircraft includes ALS <u>rescue aircraft</u>, BLS, <u>rescue aircraft</u> and <u>Aa</u>uxiliary rescue aircraft.
  - c. "Advanced Life Support Rescue Aircraft" or "ALS rescue aircraft" means a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one (1) attendant certified or licensed in advance life support ALS.
  - d. "Basic Life Support Rescue Aircraft" or "BLS Aircraft" means a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one (1) attendant certified as an EMT-1A, or an

- EMT I NA with at least eight (8) hours of hospital clinic training and whose field/clinical experience specified in Section 100074(c) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, is in the aeromedical transport of patients.
- e. "Auxiliary Rrescue Aaircraft" means a rescue aircraft which does not have a medical flight crew, or whose medical flight crew does not meet the minimum requirements established in Section 100283 (paragraph "d" listed above).
- 21. <u>"Emergency Medical Service Agency" or "EMS Agency" means the Mendocino County</u>

  Public Health Service, designated by the Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section

  1797, et seq.
- 22.25. "Emergency Medical Service Entity" or "EMS Entity" means the entity authorized by the Board-LEMSA pursuant to this Chapter to provide emergency medical EMS responses and transports.
- 23.26. "Emergency Medical Service System" or "EMS System" means a specifically organized arrangement which provides for the personnel, facilities, and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery of medical care services under emergency conditions, as described in Health and Safety Code Sections 1797 and 1798.
- 24.27. "Emergency Medical Technician"——I" or "(EMT)—I" means an individual trained and certified in all facets of basic life supportBLS, as described in Health and Safety Code Section 17970.80 and 1797.170 and certified under Title 22.
- 25.28. "Advanced EMTEmergency Medical Technician P" or "EMT-II" means an individual trained and certified in all facets of basic life supportBLS and limited ALS, as described in Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.82 and 1797.171 and certified under Title 22.
- 26.29. "Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic" or "(EMT-P)" or "Pparamedic" means an EMT-I who is trained and certified in advanced life support ALS according to standards established by this Chapter, as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.84 and 1797.172 and licensed under Title 22.
- 27.30. "Health care provider" means any physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, nurse, or anyone lawfully acting at the direction of such person.
- 28. LAS. See "Class of Service."
- 31. LEMSA" means the Local EMS Agency established by the County, designated by the Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797, et seq.

- 29. "Medical control" means direct voice communication with an approved program physician or mobile intensive care nurse/ARN.
- 32. "Maddy EMS Fund" references funding available through Health and Safety Code Section

  1797.98a which compensates health care providers for emergency services for people who do

  not have health insurance and cannot afford to pay for emergency care and for discretionary

  EMS purposes.
- 30.33. "Medical flight crew" means those individuals, excluding the pilot, specifically assigned to care for the patient during aircraft transport.
- 31.34. "Mobile Intensive Care Nurse" or "(MICN)" means a registered nurse who has been certified by the agency LEMSA in conformance with the recommendations of the California Conference of Local Health Officers definition of Mobile Intensive Care Nurses as qualified in the provision of emergency cardiac and non-cardiac care and the issuance of emergency instructions to field personnel.
- 32.35. "Patient" means any person encountered by prehospital personnel who demonstrates any known or suspected illness or injury OR is involved in an event with significant mechanism that could cause illness or injury OR who requests care or evaluation. a sick, injured, wounded, invalid, convalescent or otherwise incapacitated person, and it also means an expectant mother.
- 33.36. "Permittee" means an ambulance service which has been granted a permit by the EMS AgencyLEMSA to engage in a business or service in which ambulances are operated. (Ord. No. 3791-XXXX (part), adopted 1991-XXXX; Ord. No. 3876-XXXX (part), adopted 1994-XXXX.)

## Sec. 9.05.040 050 Administrative Authority.

This Chapter shall be administered by the Mendocino County through its designated LEMSAHealth Officer or his designee. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

## Sec. 9.05.050 EMS Fund and EMS Trust.

An EMS special fund, known as the "Maddy EMS Fund," is established pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797.98a9, et seq. Monies collected from permits and fines are to be deposited in this fund and distributed according to the Health and Safety Code. (Ord. No. XXXX 3791-(part),) adopted XXXX1991.)

An EMS Trust is established for monies collected from EMS providers related to permits, fines, and liquidated damages. Said monies will be exclusively utilized to fund EMS-related system improvements at the direction of the LEMSA. It is not intended to support EMS provider operations.

## **DIVISION TWO PERMITS**

## Sec. 9.05.100 Permit Required.

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in or profess to be engaged in the business or service of the transportation of emergency medical patients in the County of Mendocino without possessing a valid permit to do so from the County. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.110 Permit Nontransferable.

Permits issued in conformance to this division are nontransferable. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.120 Exceptions.

Vehicles operated as an ambulance at the request of local authorities during any "State of War Emergency," duly proclaimed "State of Emergency," or "Local Emergency" as defined in Government Code Section 8558. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.130 Temporary Permit.

A temporary operating permit may be authorized for an ambulance service based outside the County and properly licensed by the California Highway Patrol for up to thirty (30) days for special activities. Such temporary operating permit shall conform to the requirements of Section 2-1(c) and shall contain such additional conditions and restrictions that the County Health Officer deems appropriate. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.140 Duration.

Permits are valid for one calendar year. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

No person (either as owner, agent, or otherwise) shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, or otherwise engage in, or offer, or profess to engage in providing ambulance service in the County unless the person holds has a current Provider Agreement to provide ambulance services and a current valid Ambulance Service Provider Permit in accordance with the LEMSA System Plan and EMS protocols, policies, and guidelines.

This Chapter shall apply to providers of air and ground ambulances, including BLS, ALS, and CCT vehicles (hereinafter, "ambulance service providers"), except that (1) it shall not apply to ambulance service providers engaged in the transport of patients where the transport initiated outside County boundaries for transport into the County and (2) Paragraph 2 below shall not apply to air ambulances.

- 1. Exemptions. The only exemption to this permit requirement is for ambulances meeting all of the original jurisdiction's requirement as an ambulance service in adjoining county or state ambulance provider areas that provide less than 20 calls per month to service areas of the County that would be difficult for a primary permitted provider to service and has been providing this services nonstop for the past five (5) years or during a declared Multi-Casualty Incident (MCI)/disaster.
- 2. The LEMSA may establish one or more exclusive operating areas (EOAs), as defined in Health & Safety Code Section 1797.85, which may be awarded either without a competitive process (a "non-competitive EOA") or pursuant to a competitive process (a "competitive EOA"), provided that in either case the requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 1797.224 are met. An ambulance service provider granted an EOA shall enter into an agreement with the County (an "EOA Agreement") setting forth the terms on which the ambulance service provider shall provide services within the EOA, including the level and type of ambulance services covered by the EOA. No ambulance service provider permit shall be valid within an EOA, nor shall any ambulance service provider render any type or level of ambulance services within an EOA, unless that ambulance service provider has entered into an EOA Agreement with the County to provide that level or type of ambulance services within that EOA. A permitted EOA provider may subcontract with other permitted or unpermitted (as exempted by paragraph 2 above) provider.

- 3. Any ambulance service provider permit held by an ambulance company as provided in paragraph 3 above shall automatically expire upon the expiration or termination of the EOA Agreement held by such provider for any reason.
- 4. Nothing in this Chapter or in any rule or regulation enacted by the County shall be construed as requiring the County to establish either a competitive or non-competitive EOA.
- 5. Investigation by the LEMSA. Upon receipt of a completed application, the LEMSA is delegated to conduct an initial investigation of the permit requester, including the company and its ownership, to determine that there are no concerns related to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Upon the LEMSA's approval, a permit may be granted.
- 6. Issuance or Denial of Permit.
  - A. The LEMSA may approve the issuance of a permit to conduct an ambulance service.
  - B. The LEMSA may deny the issuance of a permit if the applicant or any partner, officer, or director thereof:
    - Was previously the holder of a permit issued under this Chapter which permit has
       been revoked or not reissued, and the terms or conditions of the suspension have not
       been fulfilled or corrected.
    - 2. Is committing any act which, if committed by any permittee, would be grounds for the suspension or revocation of a permit issued pursuant to this Chapter.
    - 3. Has acted in the capacity of a permitted person or firm under this Chapter without having a valid permit.
    - 4. Has entered the plea of guilty to, no contest to, or has been found guilty of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, and the time for appeal has elapsed or the judgment or conviction has been affirmed on appeal irrespective of an order granting probation following such conviction suspending the imposition of sentence, or of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty or setting aside the plea or verdict of guilty or dismissing the accusation or information (Ord. No. XXXX (part) adopted XXXX).
- 7. Temporary Variance. In the event of a change in ownership of any kind or nature, any interruption of service of more than twenty-four (24) hours duration, or any substantial change in staffing or equipment of the ambulance service which causes the ambulance

service to be carried out differently than specified in the current operating permit, the permittee shall notify the LEMSA immediately in writing. Upon request by the permittee, the LEMSA may grant a temporary variance from the condition so specified in the original permit if it finds that such change is in substantial compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. If the LEMSA finds that such change is not within substantial compliance with this Chapter, it may suspend or revoke the permit. In all cases where a change in the ownership of an ambulance service occurs, an application for a new permit shall be filed within thirty (30) days. In no case shall any temporary variance be valid for more than sixty (60) days without written approval of the LEMSA (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991).

8. Permits issued in conformance to this division are nontransferable.

## Sec. 9.05.<del>150</del> <u>110</u> <u>Permit</u> Fees.

Permit fees shall be established by the health officer and will include initial permit fee (first year fee) and annual renewal fees. Fees will be assessed for each ambulance service and for each ambulance operated by a service. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

The LEMSA shall establish the fees for EMS services including, but not limited to, the ambulance service permits, first responder permits, EOA procurement process, EOA contract monitoring, receiving healthcare facilities, and specialty centers (e.g., trauma, stroke, cardiac). If the fees are not paid within 30 days of permit expiration, the provider's permit will be considered suspended and the provider shall not provide the related service(s) within the County until the fees are paid in full. If the fees are not paid within 180 days, the permit will be considered expired and a new application must be submitted to the LEMSA.

## Sec. 9.05.120 Mutual Aid.

All permitted ambulance service providers are required to be part of the County mutual aid system and respond to contiguous boundary mutual aid requests when they have available resources should the need arise (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991).

## Sec. 9.05.151 Additional Fees.

The health officer may assess a per call fee to be charged to ambulance operators based upon number of calls received. This fee will be used for the following:

(A) Not less than 25% of the funds collected will be used for maintenance and/or replacement of EMS radio systems;

- (B) The remaining 75% of the funds collected will be used:
- (1) To help fund volunteer fire agencies for equipment and supplies used in response to medical aid calls,
- (2) For maintenance and/or replacement of fire/rescue radio systems,
- (3) For other EMS costs as determined by the health officer. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.155 Waiver of Fees.

- (A) Permit fees may be waived by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors where it appears to be in the public interest to do so.
- (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (A), volunteer agencies and special districts with EMS responsibilities are hereby expressly exempt from permit fees.
- (C) An ambulance service in operation prior to the enactment of this chapter will be charged only the renewal fee(s) upon the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter. The first year fee(s) will be applicable only to an ambulance service beginning operation after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.160 Application for a Permit or Renewal of a Permit.

The application for a permit or renewal of permit shall be signed by the applicant and filed with the tax collector and the department of health services. The application shall contain the following information:

- 1. Name.
- 2. Business address and residence address.
- 3. Trade or firm name, or DBA as recorded.
- 4. If a corporation, a joint venture, a general partnership or a limited partnership, the names of all the partners, or the names of corporate officers, their permanent addresses and their percentages of participation in the business.
- 5. A statement describing the applicant's experience in the operation of an ambulance service.
- 6. A photocopy of the license issued by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to owners of ambulances (in accordance with Section 2501 of the California Vehicle Code and Title

- 13, Section 1100, et seq.
- 7. A statement that the applicant owns or has under his control in good mechanical condition required equipment to adequately conduct an ambulance service for which he is applying which meets the requirements established by California law and this chapter and that the applicant owns or has access to suitable and safe facilities for maintaining the ambulances in clean and sanitary condition.
- 8. A statement amended as required during the year for any changed, substituted, sold, loaned or leased vehicles, giving a complete description of each ambulance vehicle operated by the applicant, including the patient capacity thereof. Where applicable, a copy of the most recent Ambulance Inspection Report issued by the California Highway Patrol for each vehicle should be appended.
- 9. A statement that the applicant has sufficient certified personnel adequately trained to deliver emergency medical services of good quality at all times.
- 10. A statement, amended as required during the permit year, for any personnel changes for renewal application, giving a description of the level of training. A copy of each certificate or license issued to such personnel shall be appended to each application.
- 11. A statement that, as a condition of the County issuing a permit, applicant agrees to appear and defend all actions against the County arising out of the exercise of said permit and hold the County, its officers, employees and agents harmless from all claims, demands, actions, or causes, or actions of every kind and description resulting directly or indirectly arising out of or in any way connected with the exercise of this permit.
- 12. A statement that the applicant has insurance coverage for all of his ambulance operations in a minimum amount of \$5,000,000 combined single limit for personal injury and property damage for each vehicle for each incident. A copy of the applicant's insurance policy(ies) shall be appended to the application.
- 13. A statement revealing any felony criminal corrections of the applicant, including and not limited to its partners, officers and directors.
- 14. For new applicants: Current and pro forma profit and loss statements, depreciation schedule and current balance sheet. The balance sheet shall show evidence that the applicant has sufficient assets to sustain the operation during a start-up period of at least 6 months. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

# Sec. 9.05.170 Investigation by the Agency.

Upon receipt of a completed application, the agency shall conduct an investigation to determine if the public health, safety, welfare, convenience and necessity require the granting of an original, additional, modified, or renewal permit for the ambulance service area for which the application has been made and shall further determine if the applicant meets all the requirements of this chapter. Upon completion of this investigation, the agency shall recommend to the Board that a permit be granted or denied for the requested ambulance service area. No permit shall be issued by the agency until the Board has determined that the public health, safety, welfare, convenience and necessity require the granting of such a permit. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

## Sec. 9.05.180 Issuance or Denial of Permit.

- 1. The health officer may order the issuance of a permit to conduct an ambulance service upon finding that the public health, safety, welfare, convenience, and necessity require the availability of such ambulance services and that the applicant meets the requirements of this chapter.
- 2. The health officer may deny the issuance of a permit if the applicant or any partner, officer, or director thereof:
- a. Was previously the holder of a permit issued under this chapter which permit has been revoked or not reissued, and the terms or conditions of the suspension have not been fulfilled or corrected.
- b. Is committing any act which, if committed by any permittee, would be grounds for the suspension or revocation of a permit issued pursuant to this chapter.
- c. Has acted in the capacity of a permitted person or firm under this chapter without having a valid permit.
- d. Has entered the plea of guilty to, or has been found guilty of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, and the time for appeal has elapsed or the judgment or conviction has been affirmed on appeal irrespective of an order granting probation following such conviction suspending the imposition of sentence, or of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea

of not guilty or setting aside the plea or verdict of guilty or dismissing the accusation or information. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.190 Renewal of Permits.

Permits may be renewed annually by the agency if it is determined that the permit holder has, during the period of the expiring permit, operated in conformity with the provisions of this chapter and that the permittee is capable of continuing operations in conformity with them. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.191 Amendment of Permits.

- 1. Upon request of the permittee, the agency may amend the conditions specified in the permit when such changes are in substantial compliance with the provisions of this chapter.
- 2. Such amendments shall not affect the expiration date of the existing permit.
- 3. Such amendments shall not authorize a change in ownership from that specified in the original permit.
- 4. Change in location or level of service shall not be allowed unless in substantial compliance with the Mendocino County EMS Plan.
- 5. A permittee must conform to the requirements of the permit unless revision is approved by the Board. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.192 Temporary Variance.

In the event of a change in ownership of any kind or nature, any interruption of service of more than twenty four (24) hours duration, or any substantial change in staffing or equipment of the ambulance service which causes the ambulance service to be carried out differently than specified in the current operating permit, the permittee shall notify the agency immediately in writing. Upon request by the permittee, the agency may grant a temporary variance from the condition so specified in the original permit if it finds that such change is in substantial compliance with the provisions of this chapter. If the agency finds that such change is not within substantial compliance with this chapter, it may suspend or revoke the permit. In all cases where a change in the ownership of an ambulance service occurs an application for a new permit shall

be filed within thirty (30) days. In no case shall any temporary variance be valid for more than sixty (60) days without written approval of the agency. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.) Sec. 9.05.193 Suspension or Revocation of Permits or Certificates.

The EMS agency, after giving ten (10) days notice and conducting a hearing, shall be empowered to revoke any permit or certificate issued under provisions of this chapter when it has been found that any permittee or certificated person:

- 1. Violates any section of this chapter (or rules and regulations promulgated thereunder) which relates to his/her permit or certifications.
- 2. Is convicted of a felony.
- 3. Is convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
- 4. Fails to render appropriate medical care or commits acts resulting in a hazard to life or limb of persons being transported or other person. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

  Sec. 9.05.194 Emergency Action.

The agency may temporarily and immediately suspend any certification or permit issued under this chapter when it makes written finding of the facts requiring such action to protect the public health, safety and welfare, but it should immediately notify the person involved who shall then have a right to a hearing. The agency hearing shall be held within five (5) working days of permit or certification suspension and written decision shall be issued within five (5) days thereafter. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

## Sec. 9.05.130 Documentation

All permitted EMS providers are required to document, via the electronic patient care report (ePCR) process, all incident and patient contacts as defined by LEMSA policy and data submission requirements. This includes requests received through the 9-1-1 system as well as any other dispatch center via any alternate telephone numbers or communication systems.

## Sec. 9.05.140 Inter-Facility Transportation.

Permitted ambulance service providers may offer IFT services. These services are intended for the scheduled or non-urgent transportation of people needing an ambulance where the origination is from and/or to a federally recognized medical facility. Any provider offering IFT shall not accept any ambulance transport request of an emergent (prehospital) nature. Every request for service, including IFT, shall be evaluated using medical priority dispatch protocols approved by

the LEMSA Medical Director and any calls determined to be emergent, based on LEMSA policies, must be referred to the 9-1-1 system for the appropriate response.

## Sec. 9.05.150 Violations.

Violations of this Chapter shall subject the violator to penalties under all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies. Said violation(s) may result in written warning, administrative fine, suspension, or revocation of permit as defined by LEMSA policy. The process for investigation is defined by the LEMSA policies as well as the process to lift a permit suspension.

## Sec. 9.05.<u>195</u> <u>160</u> Appeal Procedure.

If the renewal of a permit or certificate is denied by the agency, or if the agency suspends or revokes a permit or certificate, the permittee or certificated person shall have the right to demand a hearing by the Board. A request for a hearing shall be made in writing to the Clerk of the Board within fifteen (15) calendar days following the denial, suspension or revocation of the permit. Upon receipt of the written request, the Clerk of the Board shall set the matter for hearing on a date not more than sixty (60) days following receipt of the written request and give notice to both the appellant and the agency of the date set for the hearing. At the hearing, the Board shall hear the appellant, the agency and any other interested person who may present evidence relevant to the decision of the agency. Within thirty (30) days following the conclusion of the hearing, the Board shall issue its order whether or not the permit or certificate should be issued or the suspension or revocation sustained. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.) If the initial application or renewal of a permit or certificate is denied by the LEMSA, or if the LEMSA suspends or revokes a permit or certificate, the permittee shall have the right to demand a hearing by an administrative law judge. A request for a hearing shall be made in writing to the LEMSA Director within fifteen (15) calendar days following the denial, suspension or revocation of the permit. Upon receipt of the written request, the LEMSA Director shall contact the permittee to discuss the issue(s) and whether it can be resolved administratively. If not, the LEMSA Director shall appoint an administrative law judge approved by the Board, set the matter for hearing on a date not more than sixty (60) days following receipt of the written request, and give notice to both the appellant and the LEMSA of the date set for the hearing. At the hearing, the administrative law judge shall hear the appellant, the LEMSA, and any other interested

person who may present evidence relevant to the decision of the LEMSA. Within thirty (30) days following the conclusion of the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue its recommendation whether or not the permit or certificate should be issued or the suspension or revocation sustained to the LEMSA Director (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991). The LEMSA Director will either accept or reject the administrative law judge recommendation based on all pertinent information.

Sec. 9.05.196 Responsibilities and Duties of Permittees.

In addition to the other requirements and obligations set forth in this chapter, permittees shall:

- 1. Render services required under this chapter on a twenty-four (24) hour a day basis throughout the entire service area specified by the permit.
- 2. Not discontinue any services to the service area or any portion thereof without first giving written notice to the agency at least ninety (90) days prior to the proposed discontinuance.
- 3. Notify the agency within five (5) days after receipt of the results of all vehicle inspections conducted by the State and within five (5) days of any disciplinary action taken by any state or local agency regarding any ambulance license.
- 4. Notify the agency in writing within five (5) days after being informed of any disciplinary action being taken by the State or agency against any ambulance driver or attendant employed by the permittee.
- 5. Notify the agency in writing within thirty (30) days of any other changes in the information set forth in any application, certification or document required by this chapter.
- 6. Notify the agency and other affected public safety agencies a minimum of seventy two (72) hours beforehand of any known or foreseeable interruptions, suspensions or delays in services which may endanger the health, safety and welfare of the service area or portion thereof that is covered by the permittee.
- 7. Notify the agency and other affected agencies a minimum of seventy two (72) hours beforehand of any proposed resumption of services as described above. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.197 Liability Insurance.

The permittee shall obtain and keep in force during the term of said permit, public liability and bodily injury insurance issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of California, insuring the owner and also naming the County as an additional insured of such ambulance against loss by reason of injury or damage that may result to persons or property from negligent operations or defective construction of such ambulance, or from violation of this Chapter or of any other law of the State of California, or the United States. Said policy shall be not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) combined single limit for personal injury and property damage for each vehicle in any one accident. Workers Compensation Insurance shall be carried, and it shall cover all employees of the permit holder. Copies of the policies, or certificates evidencing such policies shall be filed with the agency before a permit is issued. All policies shall contain a provision requiring a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days notice to be given to the County prior to cancellation, modification or reduction in limits. The amounts of public liability insurance for bodily injury or property damage shall be subject to review and adjustment by the Board annually at the Board's option. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.198 Medical Liability.

The permittee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its agents and employees from and against any and all actions for damages or losses to persons or property arising out of or in connection with the activities of the permittee, his/her agencies or employees. Said defense and indemnification shall include, but not be limited to, any and all costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, and liability incurred in defense of such claims or actions whether same proceeds to judgment or not. Permittee shall maintain comprehensive medical liability insurance in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) and shall furnish the agency with a certificate of insurance prior to issuance or renewal of an operational permit. Said policy shall name the County as coinsured and shall require a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days notice to be given to the County prior to cancellation, modification or reduction in limits. The amount of liability coverage shall be subject to review and adjustment by the Board annually at the Board's option. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.199 Penalties.

- 1. Fines for operating an ambulance in Mendocino County without a permit shall be \$1,000 per occurrence.
- 2. Violation of any other provision of this Chapter shall be a fine of \$100 for a first violation, \$200 for a second violation within one year, and a fine of \$500 for each additional violation within one year.
- 3. The health officer of the department of health services may suspend or revoke an ambulance operator's permit for failure by the licensee to comply and maintain compliance with, or for violation of, any applicable provisions, standards or requirement of state statutes or of this Chapter.
- 4. Before such a fine shall be imposed and before any suspension or revocation, the health officer of the department of health services shall give written notice to the ambulance operator of the intention to impose the fine. Said notice shall:
- (a) Specify the occurrences for which the fine(s) are to be imposed and/or specify the reasons for the suspension or revocation;
- (b) Set forth a hearing date of not more than fifteen (15) county working days nor less than seven (7) county working days after the date of delivery of the notice to the licensee;
- (c) Specify the date, time, and place of the hearing;
- (d) Be served on the licensee either by delivery to its principal place of business or to its designated agent for service of such notices, if any.
- 5. At the hearing, the health officer of the department of health services has the burden of proving the occurrence(s) for which a fine should be imposed and/or why the permit should be suspended or revoked.
- 6. Hearings conducted pursuant to this section shall be conducted before a hearing officer designated by the health officer. At the conclusion of the said hearing, the hearing officer shall expeditiously prepare a written summary of the evidence and proposed findings and conclusions for consideration by the health officer.
- 7. The health officer of the department of health services shall issue a written decision within fifteen (15) days after conclusion of the hearing.
- 8. Fines imposed and permit suspension actions may be appealed to the Board of Supervisors as outlined in Section 9.05.195. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

#### **DIVISION THREE AMBULANCES**

Sec. 9.05.200 Ambulance Staffing.

Each ambulance being operated to render medical care shall be staffed by both an ambulance driver and attendant. The attendant shall occupy the patient compartment while transporting a person in need of medical attention. The requirement need not apply during "State of War Emergency," "State of Emergency," or "Local Emergency" as defined in Government Code Section 8558. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.210 Emergency Service Availability.

Each ambulance service operator shall provide emergency ambulance and/or BLS/LALS ambulance service on a continuous twenty four (24) hours per day basis, excluding acts of God or labor disputes. If for any reason an operator stops emergency ambulance and/or BLS/LALS service on a continuous twenty-four (24) hours per day basis, he shall immediately stop any advertisement of emergency services which have been discontinued and immediately notify the agency. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.220 Ambulance Safety and Emergency Equipment.

Ambulances and safety and emergency equipment shall be maintained at all times in good mechanical repair and in clean and sanitary condition. The following are requirements.

- 1. Minimum Equipment. All ambulances shall be equipped with all safety and emergency equipment required for ambulances by the California Vehicle Code and the California Code of Regulations.
- 2. BLS and LALS Equipment. In addition to the equipment required under paragraph 1 above, BLS and LALS ambulances shall be equipped as required by administrative rules of the agency.
- 3. Maintenance of Emergency Equipment and Supplies. Dressings, bandaging, instruments, and other medical supplies used for care and treatment of patients shall be maintained.
- 4. Inspection.
- a. BLS ambulances shall be inspected for vehicle requirements and safety and emergency equipment not less than annually. This inspection will normally be carried out by the California

Highway Patrol. A record of this inspection will normally be provided by the California Highway Patrol. A record of this inspection shall be presented to the agency on demand. The agency may also inspect BLS ambulances but will generally accept California Highway Patrol certification unless reasons exist for further inspection.

b. ALS and LALS ambulances and safety and emergency equipment shall be inspected not less than annually by the local EMS agency. Inspection by the California Highway Patrol shall also be carried out as for BLS vehicles. The EMS agency will make arrangements such that CHP and County inspections will be conducted simultaneously.

c. No person shall operate an ambulance in the County unless the vehicle contains a valid ambulance certificate. An ambulance certificate shall be issued by the agency upon the vehicle's compliance with this Chapter. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.230 Relationship to First-In Responders.

When emergency medical services are initially provided by non-ambulance services, such as fire or police agencies, transition of patient care shall include adequate historical and medical information to ensure continued appropriate services are rendered. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.240 Destination Restriction.

In the absence of decisive factors to the contrary, an ambulance driver shall transport emergency patients to the most accessible emergency medical facility equipped, staffed, and prepared to administer care appropriate to the needs of the patient. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.250 Data Collection and Reporting.

- 1. Each ambulance service, its equipment and premises, vehicle maintenance records, and records of calls shall be open to inspection by the agency during the usual business hours of operation.
- 2. Ambulance services shall maintain accurate records for all calls requesting ambulance services, emergency and elective transport, and calls responded to. A trip ticket, or ambulance rescue record, relating pertinent information, shall be prepared and delivered to the receiving

medical facility within two (2) hours, after each call responded to after the finalization of each call responded to. All related records shall be kept current, and retained for a period of not less than seven (7) years, and shall be available during normal business hours for review by the agency or its appointed representative for the purpose of enforcement of this Chapter. Records shall contain information such as, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Time of request;
- b. Name and address of person requesting;
- c. Nature of request;
- d. Dispatcher, if central dispatch gives CD number;
- e. Identification of ambulance, driver and attendant;
- f. Time of patient pickup;
- g. Time and place patient delivered;
- h. Location of ambulance when dispatched;
- i. Level of service (BLS, LAS, ALS);
- j. Other information as required.
- 3. All information required in this Section shall be recorded on forms reviewed by the EMCC and approved by the agency.
- 4. Any information gathered in conformance of this Section may be used as the basis for determining compliance with this Chapter. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.260 Mutual Aid Requirements.

Operators along a contiguous boundary shall have in effect a mutual aid service agreement for the provision of such aid should the need arise. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.270 Prohibited Acts.

No ambulance operator shall:

- 1. Fail to dispatch an ambulance within a reasonable time in response to an emergency call from a person, unless such person is immediately advised of a delay in responding to a call;
- 2. Fail, neglect, or refuse to disclose to any person that an ambulance is not available for an emergency call;

- 3. Fail, neglect, or delay to provide prompt transportation of the patient to the most practicable and appropriate medical facility in accordance with State law and with department of health services policies in an emergency case;
- 4. Use a scanner or radio monitoring device for the purposes of responding to a call when not requested to respond to that call by the appropriate public safety agency;
- 5. Use a red light and siren (i.e., code 3 operation) for response to calls received as non-emergencies;
- 6. Permit the operation of an ambulance in any manner contrary to the provisions of this Title or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto and any section of the California Vehicle Code, Titles 13 and 22 of the California Code of Regulations, and the statutes, rules and regulations of the medicare and medical programs;
- 7. Perform the services of a critical care transport provider unless that operator has first been approved as a critical care transport provider by the local EMS Agency;
- 8. Fail to be in service in response to emergency and non-emergency dispatch calls within the time parameters set forth below:

STAFFED: In service within 2 1/2 minutes.

STAFF ON CALL (i.e. Volunteer): Without unnecessary delay;

9. Provide advance life support or critical care transport services to any person or institution under any circumstances without a contract with the County for the provision of such services, except in cases where the patient's attending physician accompanies the patient during transport; 10. Respond to any emergency call without first notifying 911 unless the call is from either a health care provider or a licensed ambulance operator requesting backup services. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

**DIVISION FOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES AIRCRAFT (EMS AIRCRAFT)** 

Sec. 9.05.300 Purpose.

To integrate and coordinate EMS aircraft service, as in ground ambulance service, into the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system in Mendocino County and to assure the community to the extent possible, safe, consistent and reliable air ambulance service. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.310 Communications Equipment.

Each EMS aircraft will be equipped, at a minimum, with radio equipment approved by the agency upon recommendation of the Coordinator of Mendocino County Emergency Services, such equipment shall have the capability of communicating with Mendocino County Ambulance Dispatch, Mendocino County Hospitals and first responders. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.320 Usage Criteria.

To guide access to the dispatch of EMS aircraft services in order to achieve effective, efficient and coordinated response to medical emergencies, EMS aircraft services should be considered under the following circumstances or in accordance with EMS Agency Policies:

- 1. Victim(s) is/are located in an area which is inaccessible to ground ambulances or other ground rescue vehicles; or
- 2. There is a serious medical emergency where it is determined that an EMS aircraft transport to a hospital is advisable because of a patient's critical or rapidly deteriorating medical condition; or
- 3. When it is determined by a patient's physician that because of the patient's medical condition and the need for specialized medical care at another hospital, and where very rapid transport to another hospital is a critical factor and when such rapid transport cannot be provided by ground ambulance.
- 4. When the transport of blood or blood products, donated human organs for transplant, pharmaceuticals, or medical equipment is necessary. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.330 Dispatch Guidelines.

EMS aircraft will be dispatched in accordance with EMS Agency Policies and Procedures.

1. On scene in responding to pre-hospital medical personnel (EMT-I, EMT-II, EMT-P or MICN), public safety and fire agency personnel may request air ambulance response through EMS aircraft designated dispatch.

2. No EMS aircraft will fly to, or respond to any location unless dispatched by ambulance

#### dispatch.

- 3. Any person at the scene of an emergency, requesting an air ambulance should take into account the medical condition of the patient, the necessity for an EMS-aircraft response, the weather to include cloud ceiling and horizontal visibility, the area and access for a helicopter landing site and the safety of the aircraft and personnel. EMS aircraft may be dispatched prior to first responders arrival on-scene if the report of the EMS incident meets the criteria set forth in EMS Agency Policy and Procedures.
- 4. Ambulance dispatch will be responsible for notifying the EMS aircraft service provider of the need for an EMS aircraft response, and the request for the immediate response of the aircraft. Ambulance dispatch will provide the EMS aircraft service with whatever information is available. The EMS aircraft service will be advised whether a ground ambulance has been or will be dispatched to the scene. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

## Sec. 9.05.340 Cancellation.

- 1. EMS aircraft response may be canceled in accordance with EMS Agency Policy or when it is determined that:
- a. Ground ambulance transportation is more appropriate; or
- b. A patient refuses to be transported by an EMS aircraft; or
- c. A patient refuses medical aid and/or transportation; or
- d. The incident or weather or visibility of conditions is/are considered unsafe, dangerous, inappropriate, or presents an uncertain risk for the crew and the aircraft and/or personnel at the incident scene; or
- e. There is no patient in need of services; or
- f. The pilot of an EMS aircraft determines it is necessary due to pilot judgment.
- 2. Cancellation of the EMS aircraft should be done as soon as possible, and through the requesting agencies. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

## Sec. 9.05.350 Destination of Patient.

The decision of the destination of an EMS aircraft transporting a patient in the County of Mendocino shall be made in the following manner:

- 1. The decision shall be made in conjunction with the following:
- a. Base hospital physician;
- b. Pre-hospital care providers on the scene;
- c. EMS aircraft care providers on the scene;
- d. EMS aircraft pilot.
- 2. The base hospital physician shall have the final authority in the decision of the destination of the patient.
- 3. The pilot of the EMS aircraft has final responsibility for the aircraft and passengers' safety. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.360 Personnel and Equipment Standards.

- 1. Personnel Standards. Certified or licensed personnel (EMT-I, EMT-II, EMT-P, MICN/ARN or Flight Nurse) assigned to or who may be called upon to function as members of a flight crew for pre-hospital care are:
- a. Required to be competent in aeromedical transportation. They will be required to become familiar with local policies and procedures within Mendocino County.
- b. Required to be currently certified to provide pre-hospital emergency care in the jurisdiction of origin. The jurisdiction of origin must have a reciprocity agreement with the County of Mendocino.
- 2. Equipment Standards. Each EMS aircraft will have on board, at a minimum, those supplies and equipment which are commensurate with the scope of practice of the flight crew. In recognition of weight and space limitations, the agency may waive such requirements as are deemed inappropriate or unnecessary. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.370 Licensing and Certification.

- 1. Each EMS aircraft must be maintained in compliance with Federal and/or State standards and requirements for licensing, airworthiness or authorization as an aircraft and, where applicable, by special category as an EMS aircraft.
- 2. EMS aircraft services which provide advanced life support pre-hospital care must be

designated by the agency as authorized policies and procedures.

3. All EMS aircraft services shall submit to the EMS Agency a description of the proposed service including the crew, hours, triage for emergency and non-emergency calls, and the area of response. Attached to the proposal shall be a letter of intent expressing familiarity with and willingness to abide with agency policies and procedures. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.380 Recordkeeping.

EMS aircraft services must make available appropriate patient care records to the agency as specified by State law and agency policies and procedures. EMS aircraft services will provide to the agency in twenty-four (24) hours a copy of the patient's pre-hospital care form, or ambulance rescue record on all transports including interfacility transports. EMS aircraft patient's care that terminates at a Mendocino County medical facility will provide that facility with a completed copy of that patient's pre-hospital care form prior to departing that facility. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

Sec. 9.05.390 Indemnification and Insurance.

- 1. The EMS aircraft provider agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County of Mendocino, its officers, agents, and employees from and against any claim or action that may arise from advanced or limited advanced life support operations by personnel from the jurisdiction of origin which occur in Mendocino County, except such as may arise from the active negligence of the County of Mendocino, its officers, agents or employees.
- 2. The permittee shall obtain and keep in force during the term of said permit, public liability and bodily injury insurance issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of California, insuring the owner and also naming the County as an additional insured of such ambulance against loss by reason of injury or damage that may result to persons or property from negligent operations or defective construction of such EMS aircraft, or from violation of this Chapter or of any other law of the State of California, or the United States. Said policy shall be not less than Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) combined single limit for personal injury and property damage for each vehicle in any one accident. Workers Compensation Insurance shall be carried, and it

shall cover all employees of the permit holder. Copies of the policies, or certificates evidencing such policies shall be filed with the agency before a permit is issued. All policies shall contain a provision requiring a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days notice to be given to the County prior to cancellation, modification or reduction in limits. The amounts of pubic liability insurance for bodily injury or property damage shall be subject to review and adjustment by the Board annually at the Board's option. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991; Ord. No. 3876 (part), 1994.)

#### DIVISION FIVE COMMUNICATION AND DISPATCH

Sec. 9.05.400 Ambulance Dispatch.

- 1. Ambulance Dispatch Responsibility. Ambulance dispatch shall be responsible for coordination of ambulance first responder and/or 911 regulations.
- 2. Required Communication Equipment. Each ambulance certified under this Chapter shall be equipped with appropriate and properly maintained communications equipment to communicate with ambulance dispatch and acute care hospitals. All equipment shall be maintained by the EMS entity.
- 3. **Dispatch Policy Approval.** Medical dispatch policies shall be reviewed by the EMCC and approved by the EMS agency.
- 4. **Prohibited Dispatch.** A permittee shall not dispatch an ambulance or ambulance support vehicle as a result of information obtained by monitoring a radio frequency assigned to a public agency unless directed to do so by ambulance dispatch. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.410 Ambulance Dispatch Advisory.

Ambulances and ambulance support vehicles regularly dispatched by ambulance dispatch shall keep ambulance dispatch advised at all times of any circumstances which may change the level of service or capability of its ambulance company to provide emergency services. This includes, but is not limited to, changes in personnel and equipment status. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

Sec. 9.05.420 Availability of Ambulances.

- 1. An ambulance available for emergency service is one which has a crew of at least two (2) certified persons with the ambulance and which is ready at that time to be dispatched.
- 2. If an ambulance is occupied by a patient, it is not available for emergency services and will not be dispatched except: in dire emergency when no other ambulance is available to be dispatched; or when the estimated time of arrival to the scene by another ambulance is excessive and the patient's well-being will be adversely affected.
- 3. Each ambulance service is to immediately notify ambulance dispatch every time it does not have at least one (1) ambulance available for emergency service and shall notify ambulance dispatch immediately when its ambulance is again available. (Ord. No. 3791 (part), adopted 1991.)

# **DIVISION THREE: EFFECTIVE**

This Ordinance shall take effect and shall be in force thirty (30) days after the date of its adoption and prior to the expiration of fifteen (15) days from the passage thereof shall be published at least once in the *Ukiah Daily Journal*, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the County of Mendocino, State of California, together with the names of the members of the Board voting for and against the same. In addition, notification by first class mail shall be provided to all existing ambulance service providers in the County, provided that the County has notice of the business address of each such provider.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

	ATTEST:
Carre Brown, Chair	Carmel Angelo, Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors	Board of Supervisors, County of Mendocino,
	State of California