

SUBJECT: SAN DIEGO COUNTY SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT – FIRELINE
PARAMEDIC

Date: 7/1/2013

- I. **Authority:** California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.204 and 1797.220. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, Sections 100165, 100167. California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System, Mutual Aid Plan, (2-2012).
- II. **Purpose:** To establish procedures for Fireline paramedic response from and to agencies within or outside of San Diego County when requested through the statewide Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and to respond to and provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) care on the fireline at wildland fires and on large-scale incidents.
- III. **Definitions:**
FIRESCOPE: “Firefighting REsources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies”. The organization/program of the Cal EMA Advisory Board and the organization/program of FIRESCOPE are to deal with mutual aid, cooperative agreements, and fire/rescue regional policy issues and to advise the Secretary of Cal EMA in matters of statewide importance.
Fireline Paramedic: A paramedic who meets all pre-requisites established by FIRESCOPE and is authorized by their department to provide ALS treatment on the fireline.
- IV. **Principles:**
A. When authorized by the Incident Commander or designee at an incident a paramedic may utilize the scope of practice established and approved by the County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services Branch (County EMS).
B. These guidelines are not intended to replace existing regional EMS policies or circumvent the established response of EMS in the local County.


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- C. Upon initial request by an agency for the Fireline paramedic support, the sending provider agency shall notify County EMS with the following information: First and last name of the paramedic, the State paramedic number, local accreditation number, and the name and location of the incident where they are being sent. Upon assignment completion, the provider agency shall also notify County EMS of the paramedic's return.
- D. Upon arrival on scene, the Fireline Paramedic is expected to check in and obtain a briefing from the Logistics Section Chief, or the Medical Unit Leader or Incident Commander.

V. Policy:

- A. Under the authority of State regulations, a paramedic may render ALS care during emergency operations as long as the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The paramedic is currently licensed by the State of California and is accredited by a EMS Agency within California.
 - 2. The paramedic is currently employed with an ALS provider and possesses the requisite wildland fireline skills and equipment.
 - 3. The paramedic does not exceed the scope of practice or medical control policies as established by their county of origin.
- B. The San Diego County Fireline paramedic shall function within the County EMS Policies, Procedures and Protocols. Paramedics shall follow the current communication failure policy, P-405.
- C. Continuous quality assurance and improvement activities shall be in accordance with current County EMS policies.

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- D. Documentation of patient care shall be in accordance with policy S-601, and records will be submitted to County EMS upon completion of assigned duty. All ALS contacts require documentation via an approved method and documentation of all ALS contacts shall be reviewed through the agency's approved QA process.
- E. Any Quality Assurance issues identified in the review process require notification of the County EMS for resolution. It shall be the decision of County EMS if the situation warrants notification of the host local EMS agency (LEMSA).
- F. Minimum ALS inventory required is listed in Part IV. This inventory shall be provided by the paramedic's home agency.
- G. All Controlled medications shall be obtained, secured and inventoried as referenced in S-400.

VI. Required Fireline Paramedic Inventory:

The following is a list of required equipment for ALS packs.

ALS AIRWAY EQUIPMENT	Minimum required
Hand Held Nebulizer	2
10 Fr Suction catheter	1
Manual or portable suction device	1
Laryngoscope handle with Miller/McIntosh blades – adult size	1 set
Adult Magill forceps	1
Water soluble lubricant	5 packets
Tube introducer	1
ET tubes, cuffed 6.0, 7.5	1 each

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ALS AIRWAY EQUIPMENT	Minimum required
Stylette (adult)	1
ETT holder	1
Combitube (small adult) OR King airway (size 3, 4, 5)	1 each
Needle thoracostomy kit or 14g, 3-3.5" Angiocath	1
End Tidal CO ₂ detector	1

IV and Medication Administration Supplies	Minimum required
Normal Saline solution (0.9%) for IV administration	1000 mL (total)
Tourniquets for IV start	2
Syringes 10 mL, 1 mL TB	2 each
IV Catheters 14g, 16g, 18g, 20g	2 each
IV Administration set, macro drip	2 sets
Needles 25g, 18g	2, 4
Alcohol prep wipes	6
Adhesive or transpore tape	1

Miscellaneous	Minimum required
Sharps Container	1
Fireline Paramedic pack inventory sheet	1
Patient Care Records	6
Narcotics Storage System and log sheet	1
AMA Forms	3

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Miscellaneous	Minimum required
BLS Pack	1
Defibrillator or AED, waveform display preferred	1
Pulse oximeter (optional)	1
Defibrillator/AED patches, adult size	2
Glucometer with test strips and lancet	1

Medications	Minimum required
Albuterol Sulfate	15 mg
Aspirin, chewable, 80mg	1 bottle
Atropine Sulfate	2 mg
Diphenhydramine (IV, IM and po)	200 mg (total)
Epinephrine 1:1000	4 mg
Epinephrine 1:10,000	2 mg
Glucagon	1 mg
Glucose Paste/Tablets	15g tube or 3 tabs
Midazolam IV	20 mg
Morphine Sulfate IV	60 mg
Naloxone IV	4 mg
Nitroglycerine 0.4mg	1 bottle/container
Ondansetron 4mg ODT	16 mg
Ondansetron IV	16 mg

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