



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY HIRES NEW EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Samuel Stratton, M.D. to Join San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency

Samuel Stratton, M.D., has accepted an appointment as the County of San Diego's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director within the Health and Human Services Agency, effective Feb. 1, 2006.

Dr. Stratton currently holds the position of clinical professor with the University of California, Irvine (UCI) Department of Emergency Medicine and practices medicine at UCI. He also is an Adjunct Professor in the UCLA School of Public Health. He has 28 years of experience in emergency medicine and is board certified in emergency medicine and internal medicine. Dr. Stratton served as Medical Director of the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency from 1993 to 2003, as well as Medical Director of the Paramedic Training Institute for the same agency.

"Dr. Stratton brings a wealth of experience and knowledge in the emergency medical services field to San Diego County," said Dr. Brent Eastman, Chief Medical Officer, Scripps Health. "I'd also like to acknowledge outgoing medical director Dr. Gary Vilke's valuable contributions to the EMS system."

"I believe, with Dr. Stratton's background, he understands the needs of the EMS providers in the field and will further enhance the strong working relationships between EMS first responders and County EMS," said Chief David Ott, Del Mar and Solana Beach Fire Departments.

Along with Dr. Stratton's duties approving medical standards, policies, protocols and procedures for EMS programs, and working on quality assurance for pre-hospital, emergency and trauma care, he will participate in countywide disaster medical and bioterrorism services preparedness and planning activities.

Stratton is on the Board of Directors for the World Association of Disaster and Emergency Medicine, is a fellow with the American College of Emergency Physicians, and belongs to the EMS Medical Director's Association of California, serving as president in 1996.

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