



County of San Diego

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DEACTIVATION OF THE HOSPITAL COUNTY AMBULANCE DIVERSION OPTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

County of San Diego EMS actively monitors the health of the 9-1-1 delivery system. The COVID-19 pandemic increased demands on the county's entire healthcare continuum. In an effort to preserve critical healthcare resources, the County of San Diego EMS Medical Director issued the temporary **COUNTY AMBULANCE DIVERSION** option on [December 15, 2020](#).

As the county's healthcare situation has stabilized, the County Ambulance Diversion policy shall end **July 1, 2021 at 0800**. This change corresponds to the effective date of the updated County of San Diego EMS policy [S-010 Emergency Department Ambulance Diversion](#). The County Ambulance Diversion option may be rapidly reinstated should health system measures – including ED bypass, EMS Transfer of Care times, and overall hospital occupancy – indicate a need.

Thank you for the outstanding care you provide to our patients, day in and day out. We recognize and appreciate your dedication during the special conditions of this pandemic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristi Koenig".

Kristi L. Koenig, MD, FACEP, FIFEM, FAEMS, Medical Director
Emergency Medical Services
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cc: Eric McDonald, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer
Andrew Parr, EMS Administrator
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