County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE
713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
http://ceo.lacounty.gov

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

November 9, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Office

SUBJECT: **OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE TO JOINT MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH AND ZEV YAROSLAVSKY**

This is in response to the joint Board motion of October 23, 2007, regarding the *Emergency Medicine and Equipment Retrieval, Agenda Item #27-E,* by Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich and Zev Yaroslavsky. In this motion, the Board of Supervisors directed the Department of Health Services and the Office of Public Safety (OPS) to develop a policy in regards to emergency medicine and equipment retrieval and report back to the Board.

The OPS has attached the newly developed Office Order regarding the transportation of emergency medical supplies.

If you have any questions regarding this matter or require additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Assistant Chief Steve Lieberman, OPS, at (213) 974-1120.

WTF:SRH:SS
SL:mlm/lbm

Attachments

c: Doyle Campbell, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Steve Lieberman, Assistant Chief

HMHS-OPS-Joint Board Motion.bl

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES COUNTY POLICE

SUBJECT: **OFFICE ORDER 07-02**
TRANSPORTING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES
OPS POLICY 5-07/350.00

EFFECTIVE DATE: IMMEDIATELY

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Order is to establish guidelines and procedures to facilitate emergency request for the pick up of emergency medical supplies to be delivered to County hospitals. On rare occasions, County Police have been requested to make emergency runs to other hospitals to obtain emergency medical supplies (pharmaceuticals, blood, or equipment) that are not available at the hospital and are needed urgently in order to save a life. Protecting lives is a critical component of the Core Values of the Los Angeles County Police, and it is our duty to provide this service when necessary.

5-07/350.00
TRANSPORTING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES

When a County hospital is faced with a situation where they have an emergency and do not have the necessary medical supplies (pharmaceuticals, blood, or equipment), the Department of Health Services (DHS) policy directs that the County hospital administrator on duty shall be responsible for contacting other hospitals to determine the availability of the necessary items and making arrangements for the delivery of these items to the affected hospital. In situations where the medical supplies cannot be delivered in a timely manner placing patient(s) at imminent risk of death or serious harm, the administrator on duty may make a request for County Police to facilitate the delivery of the emergency supplies.

The County Police supervisor or police officer receiving the request shall assess the situation to determine the proper response (i.e., information regarding the type of supplies, the location of the supplies, contact, and delivery information). The County Police supervisor/officer shall then direct County Police personnel to pick up and deliver these emergency supplies as deemed appropriate. Medical staff may be permitted to accompany the police to facilitate and care for the supplies at the pick-up destination. Personnel shall respond to these incidents as a Code 3 response. All emergency driving policies shall remain in effect (5-07/200.00).

If the supplies are being provided by a facility that is a substantial distance from the hospital, sending a unit from this facility may not be the best and most timely provision of service. In these situations, the County Police supervisor/officer shall attempt other arrangements to have the supplies delivered, either from another County Police unit that

is closer to the supply location, or the supervisor shall arrange for the local police or fire department to assist. For example, if Olive View needs emergency supplies from LAC+USC, rather then sending an Olive View officer to LAC+USC, the supervisor would call LAC+USC Station and direct an officer from LAC+USC to deliver the supplies Code 3, thereby reducing the response time.

County Police supervisors/police officers should also consider the availability of personnel from another bureau (Parks Services Bureau or Facilities Services Bureau) to facilitate a response as necessary and may request assistance from other agencies, such as Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles Police Department, for air support when time is of the essence and officers from our agency cannot respond immediately or the distance is too far for a quick response. The County Police supervisor/police officer shall contact the appropriate agency's Watch Commander to make the request. If other agencies are not able to assist, the County Police supervisor shall direct the response with County Police personnel.

The supervisor or Watch Commander shall submit a Chief Memorandum on all requests to provide an emergency medical supply transport briefly documenting the assistance that was provided.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon completion of an emergency medical supply transport, the Watch Commander shall conduct a debriefing with the transporting personnel and supervisor(s) to determine if there were any issues that need to be addressed with regards to the transport or future transports. This debriefing and corrective measure taken will be documented in the Watch Commander's Log.

APPROVED:

Margaret A. York
MARGARET A. YORK
Chief, Los Angeles County Police

November 9, 2007
Date

MAY:MR:mlm