





**SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH  
EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES**

<b>EMS POLICY</b>	<b>513</b>
Effective:	<b>April 2023</b>
Approval: EMS Director <b>Travis Kusman, MPH</b>	Signed: 
Approval: EMS Medical Director <b>Greg Gilbert, MD</b>	Signed: 

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTING AN EMS RESPONSE**

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### **I. PURPOSE**

This policy identifies the requirements and procedure for law enforcement personnel who are on scene of an incident and need to request an EMS response for patient evaluation.

### **II. AUTHORITY**

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, §1797-1797.207; California Code of Regulation, Title 22, Division 9, §100128 and 100170

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

EMS Response: Any 9-1-1 or non-emergency medical response originating in or serviced by San Mateo County EMS Personnel.

Priority 1 Response: An emergency (lights and siren) response.

Priority 3 Response: A non-emergency (no lights or siren) response.

### **IV. PROCEDURE**

A. If while on scene of an incident a law enforcement officer needs to request an EMS response to evaluate a patient, the law enforcement officer will provide the following information to their dispatch center:

1. Chief complaint or incident type;
2. approximate age of the patient(s);
3. whether the patient is conscious;
4. whether the patient is breathing;
5. whether there is chest pain; and
6. whether there is severe bleeding (spurting).

If this information is not provided, Public Safety Communications (“PSC”) will dispatch a Priority 1 Response.

B. A Priority 1 Response should always be requested for any of the following situations:



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1. Any indication of an emergency medical condition (e.g., not breathing, breathing problems, chest pain, severe bleeding, head injury, abdominal pain, or other serious injuries);
  2. a person confused, disoriented, unconscious, or not alert
  3. suspected intoxication and unable to walk independently
  4. complaint of fainting or seizure
  5. childbirth; or
  6. motor vehicle, motorcycle, or bicycle crash incidents with:
    - a. Vehicle versus pedestrian (any speed);
    - b. obvious injury or complaint of pain or injury;
    - c. significant damage to passenger compartment or airbag deployment;
- C. Law Enforcement personnel may not direct patient destination. The transporting paramedic shall follow EMS patient destination policies.