



REQUESTS FOR CANCELLING OR DOWNGRADING AN EMS RESPONSE

APPROVED: 
EMS Medical Director


EMS Administrator

1. An EMS response may be canceled by a paramedic who is staffing a fire service first response vehicle, emergency ambulance, or paramedic supervisor vehicle if:
 - 1.1 The paramedic determines that additional paramedic resources are not needed in accordance with EMS policy.
 - 1.2 A patient, as defined in San Mateo County policy, cannot be located.
 - 1.3 The patient is determined to be dead according to EMS policy.
2. Downgrading an EMS Response (to Priority 3 from Priority 1)
 - 2.1 A paramedic who is staffing a fire service first response vehicle, emergency ambulance, or paramedic field supervisor vehicle may downgrade an EMS response as appropriate based upon an initial patient assessment.
 - 2.2 Non-paramedic public safety personnel who arrive on-scene prior to the arrival of a paramedic on a fire service first response vehicle, ambulance, or field supervisor vehicle may downgrade EMS responders if there is no clear emergency medical condition (e.g., no shortness of breath, chest pain, altered mental status, head injury, acute abdominal pain).
3. Non-paramedic public safety personnel who arrive on-scene prior to the arrival of a paramedic on a fire service first response vehicle, ambulance, or field supervisor vehicle may cancel an EMS response if:
 - 3.1 A patient, as defined by EMS Policy, cannot be located.
 - 3.2 The patient is determined to be dead according to EMS policy.

Issue Date: August 1, 2004
Effective Date: August 1, 2004
Review Date: August 2006

4. Non-paramedic public safety personnel who arrive on-scene prior to the arrival of a paramedic on a fire service first response vehicle, ambulance, or field supervisor vehicle may downgrade EMS responders if there is no clear emergency medical condition (e.g., no shortness of breath, chest pain, altered mental status, head injury, acute abdominal pain).
5. As requested, local Fire and Law Enforcement Agencies will be provided ETA's determined by the responding unit and communicated by the PSC . The ETA will be determined by the PSC Dispatcher based on:
 - 5.1. Time of dispatch
 - 5.2. Point of departure
 - 5.3. Estimated distance to the call
 - 5.4. Unusual conditions affecting normal response times
6. Local Fire and Law Enforcement Agencies may request ETA's of a responding emergency ambulance(s). First responders are encouraged to provide the following information as appropriate to the incident.
 - 6.1. Type of Incident
 - 6.2. Location of Incident and location of Command Post
 - 6.3. Number of people INVOLVED in the incident
 - 6.3.1. TOTAL number, do they look injured?
 - 6.3.2. If multiple patients - START classification preferred
 - 6.3.3. If single patient - conscious? breathing? bleeding?
 - 6.4. Best access routes
 - 6.5. The name of the Incident (Fire ICS), or your radio identifier (Law Enforcement). Who should ambulance personnel report to?

Issue Date: August 1, 2004
Effective Date: August 1, 2004
Review Date: August 2006
