

**Sonoma County Code: Chapter 28 (EMS Ordinance) Revision
Version 12.17.18 Proposed**

Purpose: To provide a section-by-section list of suggested changes to the EMS ordinance proposed by the LEMSA not previously discussed in the Stakeholder workgroup. This list is not intended to document all stakeholder feedback to date, but where discussion has occurred the change proposed is highlighted in green.

Original Section	New Section/Removal/Addition	Reason for change/addition	Position Paper	Resolved
28-1 Title		No Change	None	U
28-1.5 Geographical Scope	Propose removal	Existing verbiage defines geographic area covered by EMS plan. The EMS plan is a document that general, therefore reference should be removed as potentially confusing.	None	U
28-2 (a) Purpose	Add	Propose simplified language	None	U
28-2 (b)	Move	Suggest requirements and public provider exemptions moving to a separate section.	None	U
28-3 Definitions	Add	Revise to incorporate new terms within ordinance. Some terms no longer relevant should be removed	None	U
28-4 Administrative Authority	Add	Authority section proposal inclusive of State, County and LEMSA administrative authority Updated LEMSA designation Add EMCC creation and subcommittees Add LEMSA evaluation/ EMS System Review Process	Ref.1 "Stakeholder Groups Ref.2 "Administrative Authority DRAFT language"	P
Article II: Ambulances	Article II: Authorizations	Suggest addition of process for the authorization of EMS Providers expanded beyond permitting requirements for ambulance services to comply with state requirements. This Article incorporates previous permitting requirements and Provider Agreements.	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	P

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28-5 Permits and permittees	Add	General statements for both Ambulance Service permits and Provider Agreements proposed, including variance language consolidated	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations"	U
	Move to policy	Suggest moving specific rules for permit process to LEMSA policy from ordinance. Policy will include standards and process for denial and appeal of denial by applicant. Specific application requirements, bonding and documentation to be submitted by applicants and responsibilities of applicants removed from ordinance for inclusion into LEMSA Policy to allow revisions as needed. Proposed appeal process revised and new process in policy will be modeled after EMT certification process.	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations"	U
28-5.5 Ambulance services not required to secure permits	Move to policy; public provider exemption retained	Public agencies are exempt from Ambulance Service Permit process. Those exempt services will receive any state-mandated LEMSA authorizations through provider agreements as described in 28.54. Cities and or fire districts retaining administrative control of EMS services under HSC 1797.201 are not required to obtain LEMSA authorization, but are required to comply with medical control as defined by statute. The details of duties and responsibilities are removed from ordinance for inclusion into LEMSA policy. Corrective action available through Paramedic Service Provider Agreements	Ref. 4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	R
28-6 Ambulance Operation	Move to policy	Operational requirements removed from ordinance for inclusion into LEMSA policy. Such requirements change over time, and LEMSA policy can be adjusted to accommodate changes more readily than ordinance. Specific requirements for availability of ambulances, equipment, and adherence to EMS Agency standards and treatment/transport protocols will be incorporated into Ambulance Service permits and provider agreements.	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U

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28-7 Other Provisions				
(a) Data Collection and Reporting	Change	Requirements for submission of EMS Provider fiscal data, clinical outcome data and data related to mutual aid response proposed as well as direction to develop policies addressing EMS System coordination of resources and response in declared disasters	Ref.5 "Data Position Statement Ver.2"	R
(b) Ambulance based outside Sonoma County	Add	Propose authorization to transit through the County with a patient or deliver a patient from an outside county without a permit	None	U
Article III Communications and Dispatch				
28-8 Central Dispatch (a) (a) EMS Dispatch Responsibility	Add	Require dispatch to be in accordance with LEMSA policy for medical control conducted at communications centers which are approved by LEMSA. Inclusive of BLS ambulance provider agencies	Ref. 6 "Establishing Standards for the Dispatch of Medical Resources"	PR

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(b) Required Communication Equipment	Move to policy	Move to EMS Agency policy for needed flexibility	None	U
(c) Dispatch Policy Approval	Move to LEMSA/REDCOM policy	Dispatch shall be in accordance with LEMSA policy for medical control issues; other issues are appropriate for REDCOM process. Propose removal of prior description which describes defunct medical dispatch review process. Retain LEMSA and Provider Review authority.	Ref 6. "Establishing Standards for the Dispatch of Medical Resources" Ref.7 "Medical Control"	LR
28-9 Ability to respond	Propose removal	Operational requirements removed from ordinance for inclusion into LEMSA policy. Such requirements change over time, and LEMSA policy can be adjusted to accommodate changes more readily than ordinance. Specific requirements for availability of ambulances, equipment, and adherence to EMS Agency standards and treatment/transport protocols will be incorporated into Ambulance Service Authorizations and provider agreements.	None	U
28-10 City and Fire District Dispatch	Add	References EMS Agency policies for dispatch of EMS resources. Policy will specify requirements for dispatching EMS resources including compliance with national standards for Emergency Medical Dispatch and approval by LEMSA Medical Director. Compliance via Permit or Provider Agreement. Inclusive of BLS Ambulance providers. Authority for response at jurisdictional level for Cities and Fire Districts added	Ref 8 "Dispatch of First Response Resources" Ref.5 "Ambulance Service Authorizations"	PR
	Add	Added process language for changing established ambulance service providers	Ref 9 "Recommendations on County Ambulance Zones"	LR

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28-11 Ambulance Driver	Propose removal	CHP regulates ambulance driving; therefore it is not needed in County ordinance. Individual agencies may impose additional safety rules. Safe operation of ambulances reinforced in Provider Agreement/ Ambulance Service Authorizations process	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U
Article IV EMS Personnel	Propose removal	State regulation in place	None	U
28-12 General				
(a) Through (f)	Move to policy	Certification, training program and procedures are required of the LEMSA in CCR Title 22. Requirements in the regulations are more detailed and specific than the few listed in the existing ordinance. LEMSA policy covers these areas and references Title 22 as the authority	none	U
(g), (h) Identification, Demeanor on duty	Move to policy	Move from ordinance to LEMSA policy which will detail expectation in policy, provider agreements	None	U
28-13 Ambulance Driver	Propose removal	CHP regulates ambulance driving; not needed in County ordinance. Individual agencies may impose additional safety rules. Training requirements for drivers reinforced in Provider Agreement/ Ambulance Service Authorizations process	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U

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28-14 Public Safety and Fire Agency Certification	Propose removal	CCR Title 22 defines process and requirements for public safety first aid training, and the LEMSA role in that process. Statute and regulations have changed several times since 1991; this is an area appropriate for LEMSA Policy consistent with State regulations.	None	U
28-15 Fees	Add	Add Article to encompass all fiscal language	None	U
28-15 fees		Add general direction to recover oversight costs through fees Certification and accreditation workload mandated in scope; fees detailed in fee schedule	None	U
		Add language to address management of permit and fine monies as well as Maddy Fund monies and clarify accordance with state code.	None	U
28-16 Continuing Education	Propose removal	Continuing Education requirements are clear in CCR Title 22. LEMSA policy and procedures for CE are consistent with regulations	None	U
28-17 Cooperation with emergency Department	Propose removal	Move from ordinance to LEMSA policy provider agreements, LEMSA incident reporting and resolution policy	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U

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28-18 Briefing of Hospital Personnel	Propose removal	Move from ordinance to LEMSA policy, enforceable via Ambulance Service permit /Provider Agreement and/or certification/accreditation action	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U
Article V Medical and EMS Systems Control				
28-19 Policies and Procedures	Add	Broad language in Intent and Scope requiring LEMSA to develop and implement policies and procedures. CCR Title 22 speaks directly and in detail to these requirements. A blanket requirement to comply with CCR covers the section.	Ref.10 "CVEMSA Policy Position Statement"	PR
28-20	Add	Addition of Policy Development process as proposed to address rulemaking process in ordinance.		LR
28.21 Ambulance Service Franchise Agreements	Partial move to policy	The authority for creating and operating an EOA retained. Details that relate to the RFP process are removed as the process has changed since the last ordinance and may change at some point in the future. Any contracting process for an EOA would follow standard county process and be subject to Department, CAO and Board scrutiny and approval.	None	U
28.22 briefing of new employees	Propose removal	Operational requirements removed from ordinance for inclusion into LEMSA policy. Such requirements change over time, and LEMSA policy can be adjusted to accommodate changes more readily than ordinance. Specific requirements for new employee orientation and training will be incorporated into Ambulance Service permitting and provider agreements and credentialing standards for local accreditation.	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations" Ref.4 "Paramedic Service Provider Agreements"	U

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Article IV Miscellaneous Provisions				
28.23 Emergency and Disaster Operations	Add	Add LEMSA in place of EMS Agency Medical Director for consistency with remainder of Chapter. Source of authority unchanged. Add Medical Health Operational Coordination reference.	None	U
28-24 User Complaints	Propose removal	This process is moved to LEMSA policy, provider agreements, and LEMSA incident reporting and resolution policy. EMCC removed as mediating body in conformity with current practice.	None	U
28-25 Suspension and revocation of permits or certificates	Move to policy	Permit suspension and revocation process moved to LEMSA policy. Certificate and Accreditation discipline covered in H&SC and/or CCR Title 22. LEMSA policy, procedures and practices are in conformation with those authorities as directed by 28.3(c).	Ref. 3 "Ambulance Service Authorizations"	U
28-25.1 Subpoena Power	Propose removal	Hearing and appeal process replaces Board of Supervisors as adjudicating authority with Office of Administrative Hearings	None	U
28-26 Appeal Procedure	Add	Investigative Review Panel process to be replaced by Office of Administrative Hearings; modeled after existing EMT Certification review process. Hearing before Board of Supervisors removed. All appeals to denials, suspensions, and revocations of ambulance permits will utilize the same hearing process for consistency.	None	U
28-27 Enforcement	Add	Existing language in section retained. Add specific language to specify providing care without authorization as a violation of the ordinance.	None	U

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none	Add Effective	Date the revisions take effect	None	U
none	Add Severability	Added for protection of ordinance components	None	U
none	Add CEQA	Added for EMS regulatory activity	None	U
none	Add Implementation	To allow agencies to implement new ordinance mandates prior to being considered in violation of County Code, add implementation language provision for a one-year period from the date of LEMSA policy development or from ordinance effective date for those areas of compliance not determined by LEMSA policy. LEMSA will have authority to extend implementation deadline on a case-by-case basis.	None	U