

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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DATE: March 19, 2014

TO: Commission on EMS

FROM: Howard Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP
Director

PREPARED BY: M.D. Smith
Supervising Special Investigator
Enforcement Unit

SUBJECT: Update on Enforcement Activities

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive information on Enforcement Unit activities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:**Unit Staffing:**

As of January 13, 2014, the Enforcement Unit has 6 full-time Special Investigators assigned, (one Special Investigator assigned as the EMT-2010 Project Coordinator carries a minimal case load), and 1 Retired Annuitant working as Special Investigators.

Investigative Workload:

The following is a summary of currently available data extracted from the paramedic database.

Cases opened since January 13, 2014, including:

Cases opened:	14
Cases completed and/or closed:	12
EMT-Paramedics on Probation:	300

In 2013:

Cases opened:	429
Cases completed and/or closed:	427
EMT-Paramedics on Probation:	300

Status of Current Cases:

The Enforcement Unit currently has 137 cases in “open” status.

Currently, there are 49 cases that have been in “open” status for 180 days or longer; 1 is a Fire Fighters’ Bill of Rights (FFBOR) case and 17 are California Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM....cases where Respondents are directed to a physician who specializes in addition medicine for an examination/review) cases.

Those 49 cases are divided among 6 Special Investigators and are in various stages of the investigative process, (i.e. awaiting documents, preparing for and/or setting up interviews, report writing and corrections to be made, awaiting action by local law enforcement jurisdictions, the courts, etc.).

[Delays in the interview process are common due to unforeseen difficulties in obtaining certified copies of documents, court records, availability of witnesses and/or the subject(s) of an investigation (due to medical action/disability issues, on-going investigations for FFBOR staff or on-going criminal investigations, court actions), plus the routine requirement for two or more follow-up interviews.]