

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: Lisa Witchey, Manager
Personnel Standards Unit

SUBJECT: Chapter 1.5 Regulations: First Aid Standards for Public Safety
Personnel

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive information on proposed amendments to Chapter 1.5 Regulations: First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:

The EMS Authority has proposed revisions to the Chapter 1.5: First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel to address areas of the regulations that are outdated. Proposed changes to the regulations include replacing the outdated First Responder course curriculum with the current National EMS curriculum; adding additional skills such as epinephrine, oxygen, hemostatic dressings and tourniquets; and adding training elements of Tactical First Aid for public safety first aid personnel.

An informal public comment period was available from December 20, 2013 through February 2, 2014 to solicit feedback from stakeholders and the public. Key areas of the proposed regulations that received comment include:

- Recommendation that required hours of training be increased to accommodate the course content proposed;
- Add a requirement that all Public Safety Personnel receive a background check;
- Add oxygen administration to the basic scope of practice, rather than including the skill as an optional scope of practice item;
- Add oral and nasal airways to the optional scope of practice, rather than including these skills in the basic scope of practice as proposed;

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- Retain courses sponsored and approved by the American Red Cross and American Heart Association as approved courses to satisfy training requirements.

We are incorporating many of the suggested changes into the draft regulations. We anticipate opening a rulemaking file with the Office of Administrative Law within three months, and releasing the draft regulations for a 45-day public comment period, as required by the Administrative Procedures Act.

We will keep the commission informed on the progress of revisions to the Chapter 1.5 regulations.

The summary table of public comments received during the pre-public comment period from December 20, 2013 to February 2, 2014 and EMS Authority responses to comments received is attached.