**DATE:** March 18, 2015

**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 February 1, 2015, the Enforcement Unit has 5 full-time Special Investigators assigned, one Special Investigator assigned as the EMT-2010 Project Coordinator does not carry a full case load, and 2 Retired Annuitants working as Special Investigators.

Investigative Workload:

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

Cases opened since January 1, 2015, including:

Cases opened: 21

Cases completed and/or closed: 22

EMT-Paramedics on Probation: 234

In 2014:

Cases opened: 387

Cases completed and/or closed: 374

EMT-Paramedics on Probation: 232

Status of Current Cases:

The Enforcement Unit currently has 122 cases in “open” status.

As of February 1, 2015, there are 38 cases that have been in “open” status for 180 days or longer; 2 are Fire Fighters’ Bill of Rights (FFBOR) cases and 7 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 38 cases are divided among 7 Special Investigators 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.]