

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

10901 GOLD CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 400  
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670  
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875



October 7, 2015

Steve Carroll, EMS Administrator  
Ventura County Emergency Medical Services Agency  
2220 E. Gonzales Road, Suite 200  
Oxnard, CA 93036

Dear Mr. Carroll:

This letter is in response to the 2014 Ventura County EMS Plan Update, submitted to the EMS Authority on August 7, 2015.

**I. Introduction and Summary:**

The EMS Authority has concluded its review of Ventura County's 2014 EMS Plan Update and is approving the plan as submitted.

**II. History and Background:**

The EMS Authority is responsible for the review of EMS Plans and for making a determination on the approval or disapproval of the plan, based on compliance with statute and the standards and guidelines established by the EMS Authority consistent with H&S Code § 1797.105(b).

The California Health and Safety (H&S) Code § 1797.254 states:

*"Local EMS agencies shall **annually** (emphasis added) submit an emergency medical services plan for the EMS area to the authority, according to EMS Systems, Standards, and Guidelines established by the authority".*

Historically, we have received EMS Plan documentation from Ventura County in 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 and most current, its 2014 plan update submission. Ventura County received its last EMS Plan approval on November 14, 2014 for its 2013 submission.

### **III. Analysis of EMS System Components:**

Following are comments related to Ventura County's 2014 EMS Plan Update. Areas that indicate the plan submitted is concordant and consistent with applicable guidelines or regulations and H&S Code § 1797.254 and the EMS system components identified in H&S Code § 1797.103 are indicated below:

	Approved	Not Approved	
A.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>System Organization and Management</u>
B.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Staffing/Training</u>
C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Communications</u>
D.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Response/Transportation</u>

#### 1. Tables

- Table 5 ( System Standard Response Times)
  - Standard 4.05, in part, directs each LEMSA to develop response time standards for medical responses as part of the minimum requirement. Recommended guidelines provide specific response goals for each classification of response based on area. Table 5 indicates only standard response times for 'Transport Ambulance' with remainder reported as 'Not Defined'. In next submission, please provide indication if plan exists to implement response time standards for all responders.

#### 2. Ambulance Zones

- Please see the attachment on the EMS Authority's determination of the exclusivity of Ventura County's ambulance zones.

E.   Facilities/Critical Care

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 5.10 (Pediatric System Design)
  - Currently indicated as not meeting minimum requirements with long-range plan. In next submission, please provide update on progress.
- Standard 5.11 (Pediatric Emergency Departments)
  - Currently indicated as meeting minimum requirements with long-range plan to meet recommended guidelines. In next submission, please provide update on progress.

F.   Data Collection/System Evaluation

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 6.08 (Reporting)
  - Currently indicated as not meeting minimum requirements with short-range plan. In next submission, please provide update on progress.

G.   Public Information and Education

H.   Disaster Medical Response

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 8.09 (DMAT Teams)
  - Currently indicated as meeting minimum requirements only. In next submission please indicate if plans exist to meet recommended guidelines.

**IV. Conclusion:**

Based on the information identified, Ventura County may implement areas of the 2014 EMS Plan Update that have been approved. Pursuant to H&S Code § 1797.105(b):

*“After the applicable guidelines or regulations are established by the Authority, a local EMS agency may implement a local plan...unless the Authority determines that the plan does not effectively meet the needs of the persons served and is not consistent with the coordinating activities in the geographical area served, or that the plan is not concordant and consistent with applicable guidelines or regulations, or both the guidelines and regulations established by the Authority.”*

**V. Next Steps:**

Ventura County's annual EMS Plan Update will be due on October 7, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding the plan review please contact Jeff Schultz, EMS Plans Coordinator, at (916) 431-3688.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard Backer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Howard Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP  
Director

Attachment





# Ventura County Public Health

A Division of the Ventura County Health Care Agency

**RIGOBERTO VARGAS, MPH**  
Director

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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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**STEVEN L. CARROLL, EMT-P**  
EMS Administrator  
**ANGELO SALVUCCI, M.D., F.A.C.E.P.**  
Medical Director

August 7, 2015

Jeff Schultz  
Emergency Medical Services Authority  
10901 Gold Center Drive, Suite 400  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6073

Dear Jeff,

I am pleased to submit the 2014 Ventura County EMS Plan Update for your review including updated Tables 1 through 11 and new system assessment forms for Standards 1.10, 5.10, 5.11, 6.08 and 8.09. Additionally, the Ambulance Zone Summary Forms are being resubmitted, however, there have been no changes to these documents since the last submission.

As identified in our last EMS Plan approval dated November 14, 2014, we have corrected the inconsistencies or omissions in Tables 3, 6 and 9 and have made the following updates or corrections:

- 1.07 is now listed as meeting the recommended guideline in Table 1.
- 5.10 and 5.11 have been updated to long-range plans due to other system priorities.
- 6.08 is now listed in Table 1 as a short-range plan, however, the timeline has been updated to end of FY15-16.
- 6.09 is now listed as meeting the recommended guideline in Table 1.
- 6.11 is now listed as meeting the recommended guideline in Table 1 and the short-range plan is removed.
- 8.09 has been updated to show that we now meet the minimum requirement.

Significant changes in the 2014 reporting period include the full implementation of our new Cardiac Arrest Management Program for all Ventura County based EMS responders and the development of two pilot Community Paramedicine programs, one involving coordinated care for hospice patients and the other involving TB patients that require daily medication administration. We also completed the overhaul of our County AED program to include updated training and deployment of new Physio-Control defibrillators. Other notable accomplishments in 2014 include the relocation of the EMS Agency office to our new, larger and upgraded facility, the coordinated system wide response to the Ebola threat, the implementation of the county wide Sidewalk CPR program through some of our local high schools and the continued roll-out of the Elderly Secondary Fall Prevention program in coordination with the Area Agency on Aging and our local hospitals and EMS providers.

Ventura County EMS plans to review our system design and operations in the current fiscal year and will report on our progress in the next update. Additionally, we remain interested in exploring options to increase pediatric care, however, geographic concerns and minimal patient volumes continue to limit our options at establishing a pediatric specialty care system at this time.

Please feel free to contact me at (805) 981-5305 should you require any additional information or should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steve Carroll