

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

10901 GOLD CENTER DR., SUITE 400  
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670  
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 322-1441



February 5, 2020

Mr. Steve Carroll, EMS Administrator  
Ventura County EMS Agency  
2220 East Gonzales Road, Suite 200  
Oxnard, CA 93036

Dear Mr. Carroll:

This letter is in response to Ventura County's 2018 EMS Plan submission to the EMS Authority on October 21, 2019.

**I. Introduction and Summary:**

The EMS Authority has concluded its review of Ventura County's 2018 EMS Plan and is approving the plan.

**II. History and Background:**

Ventura County received its last plan approval for its 2017 plan submission.

Historically, we have received EMS Plan submissions from Solano County for the following years:

- 1999
- 2004
- 2005
- 2007-2009
- 2011-2017

Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 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”.*

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, regulations, and case law, consistent with HSC § 1797.105(b).

### III. Analysis of EMS System Components:

Following are comments related to Ventura County's 2018 EMS Plan. Areas that indicate the plan submitted is concordant and consistent with applicable laws, regulations, case law, and the EMS system components identified in HSC § 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>            |

#### Ambulance Zones

Based on the documentation provided, please find enclosed the ground exclusive operating areas status, as compiled by the EMS Authority.

- |    |                                     |                          |  |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| E. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Facilities/Critical Care</u>          |
| F. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Data Collection/System Evaluation</u> |
| G. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Public Information and Education</u>  |
| H. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Disaster Medical Response</u>         |

### IV. Conclusion:

Based on the information identified, Ventura County's 2018 EMS Plan is approved.

Pursuant to HSC § 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*

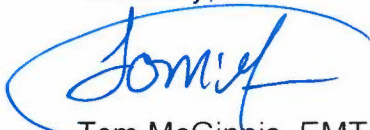
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*consistent with applicable guidelines or regulations, or both the guidelines and regulations established by the Authority."*

**V. Next Steps:**

Ventura County's next EMS Plan will be due on or before February 5, 2021. If you have any questions regarding the plan review, please contact Ms. Lisa Galindo, EMS Plans Coordinator, at (916) 431-3688.

Sincerely,



Tom McGinnis, EMT-P  
Chief, EMS Systems Division

Enclosure

ZONE	EXCLUSIVITY		Method to Achieve Exclusivity	TYPE			LEVEL							
	Non-Exclusive	Exclusive		Emergency Ambulance	ALS	LALS	All Emergency Ambulance Services	9-1-1 Emergency Response	7-digit Emergency Response	ALS Ambulance	All ALS Ambulance Services (includes emergency and IFT)	All CCT/ALS Ambulance Services	BLS IFT	BLS Non-Emergency
ASA 1 - City of Ojai		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 2 - Cities of Fillmore & Santa Paula		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 3 - City of Simi Valley		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 4 - Cities of Moorpark & Thousand Oaks		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 5 - City of Camarillo		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 6 - Cities of Oxnard & Port Hueneeme		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							
ASA 7 - City of Ventura		X	Non-Competitive	X			X							



October 21, 2019

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

Dear Lisa,

I am pleased to submit the 2018 Ventura County EMS Plan Update for your review including updated Tables 1 through 11. Additionally, the Ambulance Zone Summary Forms are being resubmitted, however, there have been no changes to these documents since the last submission.

Ventura County EMS has not developed an enhanced level pediatric emergency medical and critical care system as addressed in Standard 5.10. Ventura County does have two hospitals with Pediatric Intensive Care Units (PICU), however, continued issues with very low pediatric volume and funding difficulties remain a significant challenge for any further pediatric expansion. We will continue to work with our local hospitals and prehospital providers to identify opportunities for improved access to pediatric specialty resources.

Ventura County has one hospital that is licensed as a standby emergency department and therefore is designated as an Alternate Receiving Facility. Ojai Valley Community Hospital in Ojai serves a rural area that is geographically separated from our larger population areas. The closest basic emergency department is located about 20 miles to the south. This hospital operates with full-time staff including an emergency physician on-site at all times, however, their facility does not meet the physical requirements to be licensed as a basic emergency department. VCEMS Policy 420, addresses the designation of a standby emergency department as an ambulance receiving center and a copy of our policy is provided with this EMS Plan update. Additionally, I have included a copy of our last review and approval for this facility.

Ventura County EMS has an active Medical Health Operational Area Coordination (MHOAC) program where we actively participate in the development of the County's operational area disaster plan. Steve Carroll is the primary MHOAC and Chris Rosa is the alternate MHOAC designee.

In response to the recently enacted STEMI and Stroke specialty care system regulations, Ventura County is in the process of formalizing our long standing STEMI and Stroke programs. As required, copies of our Ventura County STEMI and Stroke Plans are attached to this plan submission for your review.

Significant changes in the 2018 reporting period include the initiation of a comprehensive EMS System Assessment, the absorption of the Santa Paula Fire Department into the Ventura County Fire Protection District, the ongoing collaboration with our behavioral health partners in the Ventura County Opioid Abuse Suppression Taskforce (COAST) program, the implementation of the Oxnard Fire Department's paramedic

program and the opening of a replacement Community Memorial Hospital in December. Operationally, 2018 was exceptionally challenging with the continuing effects of the devastating Thomas Fire and a mutual aid request to assist with the Montecito Mudslide in January. In November, Ventura County experienced a tragic mass shooting at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, which resulted in numerous injuries and 12 deaths, including the loss of a Sheriff's Sergeant who was the first to respond to the scene. The next day, the Hill and Woolsey Fires erupted, burning over 96,000 acres in Ventura County and neighboring Los Angeles County, killing three people and destroying over 1600 homes. These events tested every aspect of our emergency response, disaster and recovery systems, and we are proud of how our EMS system responded to these extraordinary challenges.

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  
EMS Administrator

**TABLE 1: MINIMUM STANDARDS/RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES**

**A. SYSTEM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

	Does not currently meet standard	Meets minimum standard	Meets recommended guidelines	Short-range plan	Long-range plan
<b>Agency Administration:</b>					
1.01 LEMSA Structure		X			
1.02 LEMSA Mission		X			
1.03 Public Input		X			
1.04 Medical Director		X	X		
<b>Planning Activities:</b>					
1.05 System Plan		X			
1.06 Annual Plan Update		X			
1.07 Trauma Planning*		X	X		
1.08 ALS Planning*		X			
1.09 Inventory of Resources		X			
1.10 Special Populations		X	X		
1.11 System Participants		X	X		
<b>Regulatory Activities:</b>					
1.12 Review & Monitoring		X			
1.13 Coordination		X			
1.14 Policy & Procedures Manual		X			
1.15 Compliance w/Policies		X			
<b>System Finances:</b>					
1.16 Funding Mechanism		X			
<b>Medical Direction:</b>					
1.17 Medical Direction*		X			
1.18 QA/QI		X	X		
1.19 Policies, Procedures, Protocols		X	X		



**TABLE 1: MINIMUM STANDARDS/RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES**

**A. SYSTEM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT (continued)**

		Does not currently meet standard	Meets minimum standard	Meets recommended guidelines	Short-range plan	Long-range plan
1.20	DNR Policy		X			
1.21	Determination of Death		X			
1.22	Reporting of Abuse		X			
1.23	Interfacility Transfer		X			
<b>Enhanced Level: Advanced Life Support</b>						
1.24	ALS Systems		X	X		
1.25	On-Line Medical Direction		X	X		
<b>Enhanced Level: Trauma Care System:</b>						
1.26	Trauma System Plan		X			
<b>Enhanced Level: Pediatric Emergency Medical and Critical Care System:</b>						
1.27	Pediatric System Plan		X			
<b>Enhanced Level: Exclusive Operating Areas:</b>						
1.28	EOA Plan		X			