

San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency



Sent by U.S. mail and email

February 14, 2023

Doctors Hospital Manteca Attn: Eleze Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer 1205 E. North Street Manteca. CA 95336

Re: Continued Designation as Primary Stroke Center

Dear Ms. Eleze Armstrong,

San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency is pleased to inform you that the written agreement with Doctors Hospital Manteca as a designated primary stroke center has been approved. The agreement term is February 1, 2023 through November 1, 2027.

An annual invoice for the specialty care designation monitoring fee will be issued beginning in October 2023 and every subsequent year through the term of the agreement.

Enclosed please find a fully executed original agreement for your records. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at (209) 468-6818.

Sincerely,

Jeff Costa

EMS Critical Care Coordinator

cc via email: Maeghan Portanova, Stroke Coordinator

Tina Burch, Chief Nursing Officer

Enclosure

Primary	Stroke	Center	Designation	Agreement
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 This Agreement is entered into by and between the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency, hereinafter called "SJCEMSA" and Doctors Hospital Manteca, hereinafter called "Hospital," collectively hereinafter called the "parties."

WITNESSETH:

Whereas, Health and Safety Code section 1797.200 authorizes each County to designate a local EMS agency for the administration of emergency medical services, which is the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency (SJCEMSA);

Whereas, Health and Safety Code section 1797.204 requires the local EMS agency to plan, implement, and evaluate an EMS system consisting of an organized pattern of readiness and response services based on public and private agreements and operational procedures;

Whereas, Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 6, Article 3, Section 1798.170 authorizes a local EMS agency to develop triage and transfer protocols to facilitate the prompt delivery of patients to appropriate designated facilities within and without its jurisdiction and states that the EMS Agency's considerations in designating a facility shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (a) A general acute care hospital's consistent ability to provide on-call physicians and services for all emergency patients regardless of ability to pay.
- (b) The sufficiency of hospital procedures to ensure that all patients who come to the emergency department are examined and evaluated to determine whether or not an emergency condition exists.
- (c) The hospital's compliance with local EMS protocols, guidelines, and transfer agreement requirements (collectively, the required "Considerations"); and Whereas, Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 2, Section 1797.67

defines a "designated facility" as a hospital which has been designated by a local EMS

1	agency to perform specified emergency medical services systems functions pursuant to		
2	guidelines established by the authority; and		
3	Whereas, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 7.2,		
4	Section 100270.220 authorizes the local EMS agency to create a Stroke Critical Care		
5	System and designate qualified hospitals as Primary Stroke Centers; and		
6	Whereas, the parties are each a department of the County of San Joaquin, a		
7	political subdivision of the State of California;		
8	Whereas, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors wishes to assure the		
9	highest quality of care by directing acute stroke patients, as defined below, to facilities		
10	committed to meeting Primary Stroke Center standards; and		
11	Whereas, Hospital requests and desires to be a designated facility to perform as		
12	a Primary Stroke Center (PSC) as part of the County's Emergency Medical Services		
13	(EMS) system; and		
14	Whereas, SJCEMSA has made the required considerations and examined		
15	Hospital and has found Hospital to possess those performance characteristics,		
16	personnel, and equipment required by SJCEMSA, as set forth in EMS Policy No. 4811		
17	Primary Stroke Center Designation attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated		
18	herein by this reference; and		
19	Whereas, Hospital is willing to accept the designation by SJCEMSA as a PSC		
20	and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions expressed herein;		
21			
22	NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals and the mutual obligations		
23	of the parties expressed herein, both SJCEMSA and Hospital do hereby expressly		
24	agree as follows:		
25			
26	1. Definitions. For the purposes of this agreement:		
27	A. "Acute Stroke Patient" means a person evaluated by prehospital, physician,		
28	nursing or other licensed or certified medical personnel according to the policies		
29	and procedures established by SJCEMSA, as may be amended from time to		
30	time, and been found to require PSC services.		

- B. "Neurointerventional Radiologist" means a specialist physician who performs surgery on the head, neck and spine without making a surgical incision, also known as endovascular treatments. These are experts in minimally-invasive treatments and use imaging equipment to see into the body and guide their procedures.
- C. "Primary Stroke Center" (PSC) means a receiving hospital that has met the
 standards of the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS); is certified
 as a Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission, and is designated as a
 PCS by SJCEMSA.
- D. "Stroke" means a condition of impaired blood flow to a patient's brain resulting inbrain dysfunction.
- 12 E. "Stroke Critical Care System" means a subspecialty care component of the EMS
 13 system developed by a local SJCEMSA. This critical care system links
 14 prehospital and hospital care to deliver optimal treatment to the population of
 15 stroke patients.
 - F. "Stroke Information System" means the information system maintained by each PSC, which captures the presentation, diagnostic, treatment, and outcome data sets required by EMS Policy No. 4811 <u>Primary Stroke Center Designation</u>, and EMS Policy No. 6382 <u>Primary Stroke Center Data Requirements</u>.

21 2. Hospital Responsibilities.

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- A. Hospital shall meet all regulations, procedures, policies and protocols as have been or may be established by SJCEMSA, including changes that may occur in state law or regulation and are subsequently adopted by SJCEMSA during the term of this agreement.
- B. Hospital shall comply with the requirements of EMS Policy No. 4811 Primary
 Stroke Center Designation, and EMS Policy No. 6382 Primary Stroke Center
 Data Requirements, which are incorporated into this Agreement. Hospital shall
 monitor its compliance with EMS Policy No. 4811 Primary Stroke Center
 Designation and EMS Policy No. 6382 Primary Stroke Center Data

- 1 Requirements on a regular and ongoing basis. Documentation of such efforts
 2 shall be made available to SJCEMSA upon request.
- C. Hospital shall provide all persons, employees, supplies, equipment, and facilities
 necessary to perform the services required of Hospital under this Agreement.
- D. Hospital shall notify SJCEMSA, in writing, within twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of any failure to meet compliance with EMS Policy No. 4811
 Primary Stroke Center Designation and shall take corrective action within a reasonable period of time to correct said failure.
- 9 **E.** Hospital shall immediately notify SJCEMSA Duty Officer of any disruption in the Hospital's provision of PSC services.

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- F. Hospital shall maintain the capability at all times for Hospital to conduct two-way radio communications with paramedic units in the field in order to facilitate the rapid notification of acute stroke patient alerts and, maintain and operate communications equipment so as to ensure continued compatibility in a manner which will not degrade or interfere with the actual or intended operation of the SJCEMSA's communication system.
- G. Hospital shall digitally record and maintain records of radio or telephone communications received from prehospital personnel notifying Hospital of an acute stroke patient for a minimum of one-hundred and eighty (180) days. Hospital shall provide SJCEMSA with 24-hour remote access to the digital recorder for prehospital medical control oversight and EMS system evaluation.
 - H. Hospital shall maintain a Stroke Information System and submit Stroke Information System data to SJCEMSA on a regular basis, as requested by SJCEMSA, pursuant to its authority as a local EMS agency. Hospital shall, at a minimum, collect and maintain the data specified in EMS Policy No. 6382 <u>Primary Stroke Center Data Requirements</u> and other data points that are adopted by SJCEMSA.
- I. Hospital shall participate and submit monthly Stroke Information System data to the American Heart Association's Get with the Guidelines – Stroke registry. Hospital agrees to authorize SJCEMSA to access the Stroke Information

1	System data submitted to the American Heart Association's Get with the
2	Guidelines – Stroke registry.

- J. Hospital acknowledges that SJCEMSA makes no representation as to the number of acute stroke patients that may be transported to Hospital during the term of this Agreement.
- K. Upon SJCEMSA's request, Hospital agrees to negotiate in good faith the consolidation or combination of this Agreement with other designation agreements with SJCEMSA.
 - L. Hospital shall participate in the multidisciplinary stroke QI Committee facilitated by County.

3. SJCEMSA Responsibilities.

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- A. SJCEMSA shall designate Hospital as a PSC in the San Joaquin County EMS System pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the policies and procedures of the SJCEMSA, until such time that this Agreement is terminated.
- 16 B. SJCEMSA shall facilitate multidisciplinary stroke QI Committee meetings.

4. Financial Responsibility.

County, its departments, officers, agents and employees shall not be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by Hospital to satisfy Hospital's responsibilities under this Agreement, including any costs or expenses incurred by Hospital for services provided to patients lacking the ability to pay for services.

5. Audits and Inspections.

SJCEMSA and its authorized representatives shall be entitled to monitor, assess, and evaluate Hospital's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. To the extent permitted by law and applicable regulations, such monitoring, assessments, or evaluations shall include, but not be limited to, audits, inspection of premises, review of reports, review of patient records, participation in Hospital committees reviewing PSC services, and interviews of Hospital's staff and PSC program participants. At any time during normal business hours, as often as the SJCEMSA

may deem necessary, and to the extent permitted by law and applicable regulations,

Hospital shall make available to SJCEMSA upon SJCEMSA's request, Hospital's

records that SJCEMSA determines are necessary to monitor, assess, and evaluate

Hospital's performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

6. Maintenance of Records.

Hospital shall maintain patient care, revenue, and expenditure data relating to the services provided by Hospital under this Agreement during the term of this Agreement and for a period of seven (7) years from the termination of this Agreement or any legal or equitable claims, if any, have been resolved, whichever period is longer, or longer if otherwise required under other provisions of this Agreement. Such records shall be maintained in such a fashion as to be able to separately identify Stroke patients from all other patients.

7. Indemnification.

Hospital shall exonerate, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the San Joaquin County, its officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, defense costs, or liability of any kind or nature which County may sustain or incur or which may be imposed upon it for injury to or death of persons, or damage to property as a result of, arising out of, or in any manner connected with Hospital, its officers, agents and employees performance under the terms of this Agreement, excepting any liability arising out of the intentional or negligent conduct of County. Such indemnification includes any damage to the person(s), or property(ies) of Hospital and third persons.

8. Insurance.

Hospital shall maintain insurance coverage and limits as separately established by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. In the event that ownership or governance structure of Hospital changes during the Agreement period, Hospital agrees to adhere to the insurance requirements specified in this section. Without limiting Hospital's indemnification, Hospital shall procure and maintain for the

1	duration of the Agreement, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or
2	damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of
3	the Agreement by the Hospital, its agents, representatives or employees. County
4	shall retain the right at any time to review the coverage, form, and amount of the
5	insurance required hereby.
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7	Verification of Coverage
8	Hospital shall furnish SJCEMSA with certificates evidencing coverage as required
9	below. Copies of required endorsements must be attached to the provided
10	certificates. The County Risk Manager may approve self-insurance programs in lieu
11	of required policies of insurance if, in the opinion of the Risk Manager, the interests
12	of the County and the general public are adequately protected. All certificates,
13	evidences of self-insurance, and additional insured endorsements are to be received
14	and approved by the County prior to designation. SJCEMSA reserves the right to
15	require that Hospital provide complete, copies of any policy of insurance including
16	endorsements offered in compliance with these specifications.
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18	Minimum Scope of Insurance
19	Coverage shall be at least as broad as:
20	A. GENERAL LIABILITY: Insurance Services Office's Commercial General Liability
21	occurrence coverage form CG 0001. Including, but not limited to
22	Premises/Operations, Contractual, and Personal & Advertising Injury, without
23	additional exclusions or limitations.
24	B. WORKERS' COMPENSATION: Statutory requirements of the State of California
25	and Employer's Liability Insurance.
26	C. PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY or Errors and Omissions Liability insurance
27	appropriate to the Hospital's profession.
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29	Minimum Limits of Insurance
30	Hospital shall maintain limits no less than:

A. General Liability shall be on an Occurrence basis (as opposed to Claims Made

1	basis). Minimum limits and structure shall be:			
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3	General Aggregate:	\$5,000,000		
4	Personal & Adv. Injury:	\$1,000,000		
5	Each Occurrence:	\$5,000,000		
6	Fire Damage:	\$ 100,000		
7	B. Workers' Compensation: Statutory.			
8	C. Employer's Liability: \$1,000,000 per acci	dent for bodily injury or disease.		
9	D. Professional Liability, Malpractice or Errors and Omissions Liability: \$5,000,000			
10	per claim and aggregate.			
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12	Other Insurance Provisions			
13	The insurance policies required in this Agreen	nent are to contain, or be endorsed to		
14	contain, as applicable, the following provisions	s:		
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16	All Policies:			
17	A. ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS: Insura	ance is to be placed with insurers with a		
18	current A.M. Best's rating of no less than A-VI	II. The County Risk Manager may		
19	waive or alter this requirement, or accept self-	insurance in lieu of any required policy		
20	of insurance if, in the opinion of the Risk Mana	ager, the interests of the County and		
21	the general public are adequately protected.			
22	B. MAINTENANCE OF INSURANCE COVE	ERAGE: The Hospital shall maintain all		
23	insurance coverages or approved self-insurar	nce program in place at all times and		
24	provide SJCEMSA with evidence of each policy's renewal ten (10) days in advance			
25	of its anniversary date. Each insurance policy	required by this Agreement shall state		
26	that coverage shall not be canceled except after thirty (30) days' written notice for			
27	cancellation or non-renewal has been given to SJCEMSA. For non-payment of			
28	premium 10 days prior written notice of cance	ellation is required.		
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31	Commercial General Liability:			

1	A. <u>ADDITIONAL INSURED STATUS:</u> The County, its officers, directors, officials,
2	employees, and volunteers are to be endorsed as additional insureds as respects:
3	liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Hospital; premises
4	owned, occupied or used by the Hospital. The coverage shall contain no endorsed
5	limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the County, its officers, directors,
6	officials, employees, or volunteers.
7	B. CIVIL CODE PROVISION: Coverage shall not extend to any indemnity
8	coverage for the active negligence of the additional insured in any case where an
9	agreement to indemnify the additional insured would be invalid under Subdivision (b)
10	of Section 2782 of the Civil Code.
11	C. PRIMARY INSURANCE: For any claims related to this agreement, the
12	Hospital's insurance coverage shall be endorsed to be primary insurance as
13	respects the County, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers. Any insurance
14	or self-insurance maintained by the County, its officers, directors, officials,
15	employees, or volunteers shall be excess of the Hospital's insurance and shall not
16	contribute with it.
17	D. SEVERABILITY OF INTEREST: The Hospital's insurance shall apply separately
18	to each insured against whom claim is made or suit is brought, except with respect
19	to the limits of the insurer's liability.
20	E. SUBCONTRACTORS: Hospital shall be responsible for the acts and omissions
21	of all its subcontractors in regards to the Hospital's performance of this Agreement
22	and shall require all its subcontractors to maintain adequate insurance.
23	
24	Professional Liability:
25	PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY PROVISION: Any professional, malpractice liability or
26	errors and omissions policy hereunder shall apply to any claims, losses, liabilities, or
27	damages, demands and actions arising out of or resulting from services provided

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Workers' Compensation:

under this Agreement.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION WAIVER OF SUBROGATION: The workers'

compensation policy required hereunder shall be endorsed to state that the workers' compensation carrier waives its right of subrogation against the County, its officers, directors, officials, employees, agents or volunteers, which might arise by reason of payment under such policy in connection with performance under this Agreement by the Hospital.

Notification of Claim

If any claim for damages is filed with Hospital or if any lawsuit is instituted against Hospital, that arise out of or are in any way connected with Hospital's performance under this Agreement and that in any way, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, affect or might reasonably affect County, Hospital shall give prompt and timely notice thereof to SJCEMSA. Notice shall be deemed prompt and timely if given within thirty (30) days following the date of receipt of a claim or ten (10) days following the date of service of process of a lawsuit.

9. Nondiscrimination.

Hospital shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations including County equal opportunity requirements. Such laws include but are not limited to the following: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Sections 503 and 504); California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code sections 12900 et seq.); California Labor Code sections 1101 and 1102. HOSPITAL will not discriminate against any subcontractor, employee, or applicant for employment because of age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex/gender, sexual orientation, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, political beliefs, organizational affiliations, or marital status in the recruitment, selection for training including apprenticeship, hiring, employment, utilization, promotion, layoff, rates of pay or other forms of compensation. Nor will Hospital discriminate in the provision of services provided under this Agreement because of age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex/gender, sexual

orientation, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, political beliefs, organizational affiliations, or marital status.

10. Confidentiality.

The parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of protected health information and records obtained in the course of providing services under this Agreement, in accordance with all applicable federal and state statutes and regulations and local ordinances. Such information shall be divulged only as provided by law. The SJCEMSA represents and warrants to Hospital that it is a "Health Oversight Agency" as that term is defined under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and, based upon such representation, the parties agree that SJCEMSA is a health oversight agency and that, a Business Associate Agreement is not necessary. Disclosure of any medical staff document to SJCEMSA shall not constitute a waiver by Hospital of the protections afforded by California Evidence Code Section 1157. If any disclosure of information contained in a medical staff committee document is sought from SJCEMSA by a third party, SJCEMSA shall notify Hospital and shall raise all applicable objections or defenses to the demand for disclosure.

11.Term.

The term of this Agreement shall be for four (4) years and eight (8) months. This Agreement shall begin <u>February 1, 2023</u> and continue through <u>October 31, 2027</u>, unless terminated earlier or extended pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

12. Fees.

Hospital shall pay SJCEMSA an annual fee as established by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors fee schedule for the cost of monitoring Hospital's compliance with PSC Designation and the development of, and ongoing evaluation and refinement of the Stroke System of Care. A prorated agreement fee of \$18,316.67 for the first eight (8) months of the agreement will be due on or before

January 31, 2023. The subsequent annual fee payments shall be made in full to SJCEMSA no later than October 31, 2023 and each October 31, thereafter as the terms of the Agreement may be extended. The fee is not refundable in whole or in part.

13. Alteration of Agreement.

No alteration, modification, or variation of the terms of this agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto, and no oral understanding or agreement not incorporated herein shall be binding on the parties hereto.

14. Termination.

- A. <u>Termination without Cause</u>. SJCEMSA may terminate this Agreement without cause upon ninety (90) days written notice to Hospital. Hospital may terminate this Agreement without cause upon ninety (90) days written notice to SJCEMSA.
- B. <u>Termination for Cause by SJCEMSA</u>. SJCEMSA may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to Hospital, subject to Hospital's opportunity to cure as set forth below, upon the occurrence of any one or more of the following events:
 - 1) Any material breach of this Agreement by Hospital;
 - 2) Any violation by Hospital of any applicable laws, regulations, local ordinances, or SJCEMSA policies and procedures;
 - Any failure by Hospital to provide timely surgical and non-surgical physician coverage for acute stroke patients, causing unnecessary risk of mortality and/or morbidity for an Acute Stroke Patient;
 - 4) Submission by Hospital to SJCEMSA reports or information that Hospital knows or should know are incorrect in any material respect;
 - 5) Loss or suspension of licensure as an acute care hospital, loss or suspension of any existing or future special permits issued by state or federal agencies necessary for the provision of the services provided by Hospital under the terms of this Agreement, or loss or suspension of accreditation by the Joint Commission or an equivalent accreditation body;
 - 6) Loss or suspension of PSC certification by the Joint Commission;

- 7) Any failure to comply with a plan of correction imposed by the SJCEMSA;
 - 8) Any failure to remedy any recurring malfunction, physician, nursing and other staff shortages, staff response delays, or facility problems of Hospital, which causes or contributes to Hospital's diversion of ambulances transporting acute stroke patients intended for Hospital; and
 - Failure to submit specified reports, PSC Information System data, or other information required under this Agreement.
- C. Opportunity to Cure. Prior to the exercise of SJCEMSA's right to terminate for cause, SJCEMSA shall give Hospital at least thirty (30) days written notice (hereinafter "Correction Period") specifying in reasonable detail the grounds for termination and all deficiencies requiring correction. SJCEMSA may shorten the Correction Period to immediate suspension if SJCEMSA determines that Hospital's action or inaction has seriously threatened, or will seriously threaten, public health and safety. If Hospital has not remedied each deficiency prior to the end of the Correction Period to the satisfaction of SJCEMSA, or SJCEMSA has not approved a plan of correction submitted by the Hospital within the Correction Period, SJCEMSA may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to Hospital, specifying the effective date of termination.

20 15.Contract Administrators.

SJCEMSA Administrator or designee, and Hospital's Chief Executive Officer or designee, shall be the primary contacts for the purpose of the administration of this Agreement.

16. Notices.

 Any notice or notices required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement may be personally served on the other party by giving the party such notice, or may be served by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the following representatives at the addresses cited below:

To Hospital: Eleze Armstrong,

1		Chief Executive Officer	
2		Doctors Hospital Manteca	
3		1205 East North Street,	
4		Manteca, CA 95336	
5			
6	To SJCEMSA:	Jared Bagwell, EMS Administrator	
7		San Joaquin County EMS Agency	
8		P.O. Box 220	
9		French Camp, CA 95231	
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11	17.Assignment.		
12	Hospital shall no	ot delegate its duties and responsibilities or assign its rights	
13	hereunder, or both, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of		
14	SJCEMSA. Thi	s provision shall not be applicable to services agreements or	
15	contracts or sim	ilar arrangements usually and customarily entered into by medical	
16	facilities to obta	in or arrange for professional medical services, administrative	
17	support, equipm	nent, supplies or technical support.	
18			
19	18.No Third Party	Beneficiaries.	
20	The parties do r	not intend to confer and this Agreement shall not confer or be	
21	construed to confer any rights or benefits to any person, group, corporation, or entity		
22	other than the parties to this Agreement.		
23			
24	19. Non Exclusivi	ty.	
25	Nothing herein	is intended nor shall be construed as creating any exclusive	
26	arrangement with Hospital. This Agreement shall not restrict SJCEMSA's ability to		
27	enter into Agreements with other entities to provide stroke care as a designated PS		
28	as part of the S	an Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services System.	
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31	20.Entire Agreem	ent.	

1	This document represents the entire Agreement between the parties with respect to		
2	the subject matter hereof.		
3			
4	21.Waiver.		
5	No delay or failure to require performance	of any provision of this Agreement shall	
6	constitute a waiver of that provision as to that or any other instance. Any waiver		
7	granted by a party must be in writing, and shall apply to the specific instance		
8	expressly stated.		
9 10	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have e	xecuted this Agreement the date first	
11	written above:		
12		County of San Joaquin	
		By: Jared Bagwell 18-4 30, 2023 11:26 PST)	
		Jared Bagwell, EMS Administrator	
		Date: Jan 30, 2023	
		Hospital	
		By: EArmStrong (Jan 31, 2023 11:43 PST)	
		Eleze Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer	
	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	Date: Jan 31, 2023	
	County Counsel		
	By: Zoey Merrill (Jan 31, 2023 11:32 PST) Zayante (Zoey) P. Merrill Deputy County Counsel		
13	Date: Jan 31, 2023		