



# San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency



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<http://www.sjgov.org/departments/ems>

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## Memorandum

DATE: May 25, 2022

TO: Ambulance Service Providers  
Fire Chiefs  
Interested Parties

FROM: Dan Burch, EMS Administrator

SUBJ.: Implementation of EMT Scope of Practice and Related Policies

San Joaquin County EMS Agency (SJCEMSA) is implementing new and revised policies to address the Superior Court's ruling in *South San Joaquin County Fire Authority, et al v. San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency, et al*; Case No. MSRA 20-0007 recommending SJCEMSA amend EMS Policy No. 2360, Emergency Medical Technician Scope of Practice.

The following new and revised policies are effective June 1, 2022, and posted on the SJCEMSA website at <https://www.sjgov.org/departments/ems/policies.htm>:

1. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2360, Emergency Medical Technician Scope of Practice
2. SJCEMSA Policy No. 4101, EMS Response Vehicle Medication and Equipment
3. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5507, BLS Inter-facility Patient Transports
4. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5542, BLS Poisoning and Overdose
5. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5551, BLS Allergic Reaction – Anaphylaxis
6. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5552, BLS Bites and Stings
7. SJCEMSA Policy No. 6621, EMT Enhanced Skills Quality Improvement
8. SJCEMSA Policy No. 6621A, EMT Enhanced Skills Medication Audit Form

As previously shared in a memorandum dated May 11, 2022, the Superior Court presented Dr. Shafer with the choice of either eliminating EMT enhanced skills in the system, which she does not want to do, or requiring EMT enhanced skills universally throughout the organized EMS system with all of its related costs to the fire departments and ambulance service providers. Basing her decision on what is best for patients in San Joaquin County, Dr. Shafer directed SJCEMSA staff to revise Policy No. 2360 and implement related policies to require EMT enhanced skills universally throughout the organized EMS system.

In order to comply with the ruling, SJCEMSA is enacting these policies without an implementation or grace period. All EMS service providers, including each BLS and ALS ambulance service and fire department, are required to exercise due diligence to implement and comply with these policies on June 1, 2022.

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Among its provisions, SJCEMSA Policy No. 6621, EMT Enhanced Skills Quality Improvement, requires EMS service providers to “appoint an EMS QI liaison who is qualified by education and experience for the oversight and responsibility of the EMS service provider’s EMS QI program.” SJCEMSA staff will be contacting each EMS service provider in the coming weeks to obtain the name, qualifications, and contact information for the EMS QI liaison; review the status of EMS QI plans; and offer assistance on implementing EMT enhanced skills including administration of epinephrine by auto-injector and naloxone by mucosal atomizer.

Notwithstanding the effective date of June 1, 2022, SJCEMSA is accepting written public comments on these policies from May 25, 2022, through July 11, 2022. The policies and comment forms are available at <https://www.sjgov.org/department/ems/policiesDraft.htm>. SJCEMSA must receive written comments on or before July 11, 2022, at 5 pm. Comment forms may be submitted to Marissa Matta by email at [mamatta@sjgov.org](mailto:mamatta@sjgov.org) or by U.S. mail at:

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Please direct questions regarding the implementation of these policies to Matt Esposito, Prehospital Care Coordinator at [mesposito@sjgov.org](mailto:mesposito@sjgov.org).