



**TITLE: RESPONSES TO EMS INCIDENTS
IN THE UNPROTECTED AREA**

EMS Policy No. 3205

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to describe the response planning for EMS incidents occurring in the Unprotected Area of San Joaquin County.

AUTHORITY:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220 & 1798 et seq.;

DEFINITIONS:

- A. "Emergency Medical Responder" or "EMR" means a basic life support (BLS) or ALS non-transport vehicle operated by an EMR provider.
- B. "MPDS" means the Medical Priority Dispatch System.
- C. "SJCEMSA" means the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency.
- D. "Valley Regional Emergency Communications Center" or "VRECC" means the EMD center operated by American Medical Response and designated as the EMS emergency ambulance dispatch center for all of San Joaquin County.
- E. "Unprotected Area" means that portion of San Joaquin County bordered by the main San Joaquin River Channel to the north; the San Joaquin River to the east; the Old San Joaquin River and the Grant Line Canal to the south and west; and the Old River and Contra Costa County line to the west, and is unique in San Joaquin County for not having a fire district or other form of public fire service protection to participate in the EMS system.

POLICY:

It is the policy of SJCEMSA to provide response planning and procedures for the dispatching of EMS resources, including rescue/auto extrication resources, to the Unprotected Area of San Joaquin County

PROCEDURE:

- I. For EMS incidents occurring in the Unprotected Area:
 - A. VRECC shall dispatch emergency ambulance resources in accordance with EMS Policy No. 3202, Medical Priority Dispatch System Use and Assignments.

Effective: January 3, 2023
Supersedes: October 1, 2020

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- B. If the EMS incident has a MPDS determinant Level of Echo, VRECC shall dispatch simultaneously to the scene an emergency ambulance, ambulance supervisor, and a second ambulance either ALS or BLS.
- C. If the EMS incident has a MPDS Protocol 29 Traffic/Transportation Incidents with a Level of Delta (29D determinants 1-5, all suffixes) or a MPDS Protocol 22 Inaccessible Incident / Other Entrapment with a Level of Delta (22D determinants 1-6, all suffixes) VRECC shall simultaneously dispatch the following to the scene:
 - 1. An emergency ambulance and an ambulance supervisor; and
 - 2. Dispatch or request dispatch of the closest rescue/auto extrication organization from the SJCEMSA maintained list of rescue/auto extrication resources.
- D. For all other EMS incidents assigned an emergency ambulance or EMR response per EMS Policy No. 3202, Medical Priority Dispatch System Use and Assignments VRECC shall dispatch an emergency ambulance and notify the ambulance supervisor of the incident.
 - 1. The ambulance supervisor shall evaluate the available information and make a decision on whether to respond to the incident and whether to have additional ambulances assigned to the incident.
- II. For incidents occurring on or in the waterways located in the Unprotected Area VRECC shall coordinate the dispatch of ambulances with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department or U.S. Coast Guard as appropriate.

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