

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY

TITLE: Responses to EMS Incidents in the Unprotected Area EMS Policy No. 3205

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to describe the response plan 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. "EMR Provider" means an organization authorized by the SJCEMSA to participate in the EMS system for the purpose of providing non-transport prehospital patient care.
- C. "EMS Agency" or "SJCEMSA" means the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency.
- D. "MPDS" means the Medical Priority Dispatch System
- E. "Valley Regional Emergency Communications Center" or "VRECC" means the EMD center operated by American Medical Response and designated as the EMS dispatch center for all of San Joaquin County.
- F. "Unprotected Area" is 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.

BACKGROUND:

The unprotected area 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:

- I. VRECC is required to dispatch ambulance and EMR resources and notify other dispatch centers to dispatch EMR resources to respond to medical emergencies in accordance with the assignments established by EMS Policy No. 3202, Medical Priority Dispatch System Assignments.

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Approved: Signature on file
Medical Director

Signature on file
EMS Administrator

- II. For EMS incidents occurring in the unprotected:
- A. If the incident has an MPDS determinant of Echo per EMS Policy No. 3202, Medical Priority Dispatch System Assignments VRECC shall dispatch an ambulance, ambulance supervisor, and a second ambulance either ALS or BLS.
 - B. If the incident is classified as MPDS Protocol 29 Traffic/Transportation Incidents with a determinant of Delta that occurs on a roadway or accessible from a roadway VRECC shall dispatch an ambulance and ambulance supervisor. VRECC shall:
 - 1. Dispatch or request auto extrication or water rescue resources from the nearest fire-rescue department if such resources are requested by on scene law enforcement or EMS personnel.
 - C. For all other EMS incidents assigned an ambulance or EMR response per EMS Policy No. 3202, Medical Priority Dispatch System Assignments VRECC shall dispatch an 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.
- III. 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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