

APPROVED: Signature on file in EMS office
Executive Director

Signature on file in EMS office
Medical Director

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/1/2013

SUPERSEDES:

REVISED:

REVIEW DATE: 5/1/2018

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**PROVIDER ALS FIRST RESPONSE VEHICLE UTILIZATION IN
STANISLAUS COUNTY**

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.204, 1797.218 and 1797.220

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Agency” – means the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
- B. “ALS” – means Advanced Life Support as defined in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.52
- C. “ALS Ambulance” - means a properly staffed and equipped ALS ambulance, as specified in Agency Policy 407.00 - Equipment and Medication Inventory and Agency Policy 405.00, Ground Ambulance Staffing Levels.
- D. “Provider ALS First Response Vehicle” - means a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle that is operated by an authorized ALS ambulance provider and is staffed by a minimum of one Paramedic and equipped as required in Agency Policy 407.00.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the requirements for the use of Provider ALS First Response Vehicles by a Stanislaus County approved ALS Ambulance provider in their response area. Utilization of Provider ALS First Response Vehicles must be approved by the Agency.

IV. POLICY

A Stanislaus County approved ALS ambulance provider may utilize ALS First Response Vehicles to enhance patient care by the early arrival of ALS personnel, augment capabilities during times of peak call volume or multi-casualty incidents, and in conjunction with the Fire Service to meet their contractually obligated response time requirement by meeting the following criteria by:

- 1. Assuring that a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle is not to be used to reduce the number of ALS ambulances normally required as part of the Provider’s internal System Status Plan.

2. Documenting patient care findings and actions by both the Provider ALS First Response Vehicle paramedic and the transporting ambulance paramedic in the Provider's patient care report (PCR) system, The transporting ambulance paramedic shall document and attribute the findings and actions of the ALS First Response Vehicle paramedic in the transporting ambulance paramedic's PCR.
3. Providing the following data, on a quarterly basis, for use in monitoring system effectiveness and review by the Stanislaus County Emergency Medical Services Committee:
 - a. Master Incident Number assigned to each call by the Authorized Emergency Dispatch Center
 - b. Time Call Assigned
 - c. Time Unit in Enroute
 - d. Time ALS Transporting Ambulance On Scene
 - e. Time Provider ALS First Response Vehicle On Scene
 - f. Time Fire Arrived On Scene
 - g. Time of Downgrade in Response Code of Transporting Ambulance, if appropriate
 - h. Analysis of Clinical Care Provided on Patients Prior to the Arrival of a Transporting Ambulance
 - i. Number of Times Fire Service Response was Cancelled by the Provider ALS First Response Vehicle
4. Calculating response time compliance will be using the earliest on scene time at:
 - a. The on scene time of a transporting ALS ambulance. ;or;
 - b. A Provider ALS First Response Vehicle and a fire service unit being on scene simultaneously

V. **PROCEDURE**

Approval of Application for Utilization of Provider ALS First Response Vehicle

1. A Stanislaus County approved ALS ambulance provider that wishes to utilize a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle within their area of responsibility shall:
 - a. Provide documentation, with the following data elements, that states their intent to incorporate the utilization of a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle into their internal System Status Plan:
 - 1) Date of Implementation of System
 - 2) Times that Provider ALS First Response Vehicle will be incorporated into internal System Status Plan
 - 3) Area to be Served by a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle
 - 4) Name(s) of Fire Department(s) that respond within the area
 - 5) Name of contact person for ambulance provider regarding Provider ALS First Response Vehicle operations

- 6) Method of submission of data elements identified in Section 4.3 of this policy
 - 7) Type of vehicle to be utilized as the Provider ALS First Response Vehicle
 - 8) Confirmation of communication with the Authorized Emergency Dispatch Center regarding the utilization of a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle
2. The Agency shall:
- a. review the application to ensure that all items listed in Section V.A of this policy have been satisfactorily addressed
 - b. notify the applicant, in writing, within ten (10) business days of receiving application of its findings
 - c. upon approval of the application notify the Authorized Emergency Dispatch Center and the affected Fire Departments of the implementation of a Provider ALS First Response Vehicle program