



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

World Trade Center
350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 288, Los Angeles California 90071

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July 2, 2019

To: Lt.
Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD)

From: Ingrid Williams
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. All LASD policies related to extraction of an injured person while in the field.

REASON FOR REQUEST:

The Commission would like to obtain clarification regarding LASD's procedure(s) to seek medical attention for individuals injured in the field while in LASD's custody.

WHEN SPECIFIC INFORMATION IS NEEDED:

Please forward information to the contact person listed below by **July 9, 2019**.

CONTACT PERSON:

Please feel free to contact Ingrid Williams at [redacted] should you have any questions in regards to the request.

Department E-Mail Response

From:
Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2019 12:56 PM
To: Williams, Ingrid
Cc: Wilson, Michele
Subject: FW: COC request
Attachments: Request from Civilian Oversight Commission.docx; 17-01.pdf; medical aid to in custody suspects.pdf

Good afternoon Ingrid,

Please see the attached documents related to the COC's request for information.

Please let me know if you need anything further, and have a great holiday weekend!

Lieutenant

*Office of the Undersheriff
211 W. Temple St., 8th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012*

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

NEWSLETTER

Field Operations Support Services,



VOLUME 17 NUMBER 01

DATE: JANUARY 13, 2017

DEPUTY'S DUTY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

Sworn personnel are usually the first uniform presence to arrive on scene of an emergency. When the situation involves a medical emergency, deputies have a duty to provide basic or emergency care to all injured persons including suspects.

The initial unit on scene should conduct a scene assessment prior to rendering any care. Evaluate the nature of the emergency, and communicate all critical and known information to dispatch and responding units, while ensuring officer safety, public safety, and the safety of any injured persons.

There is an assumption that everyone who needs help wants it. This may not always be true. In order to provide basic or emergency medical care to someone, the deputy must have the injured person's permission. This permission is referred to as "Medical Consent." Medical consent is either expressed or implied. Expressed consent must come from an adult who is not impaired and must be communicated to you verbally or in writing. Implied consent occurs when a deputy is unable to communicate with an injured person who is intoxicated, developmentally disabled, confused, or underage. These individuals are considered to be impaired and consent is implied.

When in doubt, assume you have consent any time a person's wishes and communication are not clear. An adult victim who is not impaired has the right to refuse treatment.

Once a deputy has initiated care, he/she must continue that care until:

- The scene becomes unsafe;
- The deputy is too physically exhausted to continue providing appropriate care;
- The deputy is relieved of the responsibility by personnel with an equal or higher level of medical training;
- The person revives.

Due to the nature of providing emergency medical care, deputies are at risk of exposure to airborne and blood-borne pathogens. For this reason, deputies must take appropriate precautions at all times when in direct contact with injured victims'/suspects'

blood or bodily fluids. The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) can prevent possible exposure and infection.

When a call for emergent medical services is received by station/unit desk personnel, they shall be responsible for prompt notification to a local Fire Department dispatcher. A field unit shall also be dispatched to the scene of the emergency.

Health and Safety Code section 1799.102 provides emergency rescue personnel with qualified immunity from liability from civil damages for injury caused by an action taken when providing emergency medical services under certain conditions.

To be protected from liability for civil damages, emergency rescue personnel must:

- *Act within the scope of their employment;*
- *Act in good faith;*
- *Provide a standard of care that is within the scope of their training and Agency policy.*

Information regarding the content of this newsletter may be directed to the Field Operations Support Services at _____ or _____

References:

Learning Domain 34, CA POST

American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers instructor's Manual

Peace Officers Standard and Training (POST) First Aid/CPR Instructor Course

Health and Safety Code section 1799.102

MPP Section 5-09/000.05, Responsibilities of Field Personnel

MPP Section 3-01/050.15, Duties of Deputy Personnel

SEJ:BFC:jm

3-01/050.15 DUTIES OF DEPUTY PERSONNEL

Deputy personnel shall:

- protect life and property;
- preserve the public peace;
- prevent crime;
- detect and arrest violators of the law; and
- enforce federal, state, County and city laws or ordinances as required of this Department by statute or policy.

Revised 12/12/13
04/01/96 MPP

3-10/105.00 MEDICAL TREATMENT AND TRANSPORTING SUSPECTS

Medical Treatment

A suspect must be transported to a medical facility for examination/treatment by qualified medical personnel whenever the person:

- suffers a gunshot wound;
- strikes their head on a hard object, or sustains a blow to the head/face, as a result of the application of force by a member, regardless of how minor any injury to the head/face may appear. The member transporting the suspect shall inform the doctor that the suspect was struck on the head or struck their head;
- is restrained with a carotid restraint, or any kind of neck/throat restraint, whether or not they are rendered unconscious. The member transporting the suspect shall inform the medical staff of the fact that the suspect was restrained with a carotid restraint and whether or not they were rendered unconscious;
- is hit with a specialized weapon projectile (such as an Arwen round, Taser dart, Stunbag, Pepperball projectile, etc.);
- is subjected to a Taser used in the drive stun mode;
- sustains a canine bite resulting in any bleeding or penetration of the skin;
- has injuries that appear to require medical treatment;
- alleges any injury and requests medical treatment, whether or not they have any apparent injuries;
- alleges that substantial force was used against them, whether or not they have any apparent injuries or requests medical treatment;
- was wearing the electronic immobilization belt during its activation (unless qualified medical clearance is obtained in the field); or
- has the Total Appendage Restraint Procedure (TARP) applied on them (unless qualified medical clearance is obtained in the field). Refer to MPP section 3-01/110.22, Total Appendage Restraint Procedure, for additional information.

Transporting Suspects

Whenever a suspect upon whom force was used is transported to a medical facility for examination or treatment prior to booking or housing in a custody facility, the transporting member shall immediately advise the Field Sergeant or immediate supervisor. Except in the most compelling of circumstances, personnel involved in a Category 2 or 3 Force, including participants, witnesses, and supervisors directing force, shall not transport the suspects. If compelling circumstances require that the suspect be transported by involved personnel, detailed justification shall be made in all supervisors' subsequent reports. The Sergeant shall immediately advise the Watch Commander or Supervising Lieutenant that the suspect is being treated or examined following a member's use of force.

Any doubt regarding the need for medical treatment shall be resolved by transporting the suspect to an appropriate medical facility.

If the suspect refuses medical treatment in any of the cases previously described, they shall be transported to a medical facility and required to personally inform the medical staff of their refusal to receive medical treatment. The member transporting the suspect shall include in the appropriate report or memorandum the name of the medical personnel to whom the suspect indicated their refusal and the name of the medical staff member authorizing booking at the Station or regular jail housing. In addition, an effort should be made to have the medical staff complete an admission report on the suspect and to indicate the suspect's refusal of medical treatment on that report.

If the medical staff indicates that the suspect should be treated despite their refusal, the suspect shall be transported to the County-USC Medical Center Jail Ward or to the appropriate Custody Division medical facility for treatment or medical review.

Revised 07/12/13

5-09/000.05 RESPONSIBILITIES OF FIELD PERSONNEL

When a call for emergent medical services is received by Station/Unit desk personnel, they shall be responsible for prompt notification to the County Fire Department dispatcher. A field unit shall also be dispatched to the scene of an emergency.

When a suspect is arrested and requires emergency medical care, he shall be transported by ambulance to the nearest contract hospital. Normally, in an emergency situation, paramedics are present and will request the ambulance.

At the hospital, the handling Deputy shall complete the In-Custody Medical Treatment Form. If the inmate has been released, the handling Deputy shall include the disposition, i.e., "Inmate Released - Cite # 1234567 issued," which will inform the hospital that the individual is no longer in our custody. The Deputy will receive a copy which shall be attached to the report.

In-Custody Medical Treatment Forms are to be used only for persons arrested and in the custody of the Department.

When a suspect is arrested and requires nonemergent medical care they shall normally be transported to LAC and USC Medical Center Jail Wards by Department vehicle, not by an ambulance.

When a juvenile is injured, the procedures governing emergency treatment for juveniles in the Juveniles chapter shall be observed.

Make complaint reports only when:

- a crime is involved;
- injured as result of traffic accident; or
- gross negligence.

Revised 12/12/13

Revised 05/19/03

04/01/96 MPP