

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 928

SUBJECT: PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION / LICENSURE REVIEW PROCESS

PURPOSE:

To ensure due process for paramedic licensure/accreditation disciplinary actions. To comply with all applicable state statutes and regulations regarding paramedic disciplinary actions, including suspension or revocation of EMT-P accreditation, and temporary suspension of EMT-P license

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.200, 1798, 1797.200 and 1798.210.

California Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Chapter 5, Sections 11507.6, 11507.7, 11513, and 11514.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 2, Sections 100058, 100079, 100080 and 100081, Chapter 4, Sections 100165 and 100173, and Chapter 6, Section 100201 et seq.

California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Article 1, Section 1101.

POLICY:

I. PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION

A. Suspension or Revocation of Accreditation

The Medical Director of the EMS Agency may suspend or revoke the accreditation of an EMT-P license holder if the paramedic does not maintain current licensure or meet local accreditation requirements. The paramedic shall be granted the same due process rights afforded EMT-I certificate holders facing suspension or revocation as set out in Policy 926 EMT-I Certification Review Process. (CCR §100166(i)).

Effective Date: 05/01/2006

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 02/06

Next Review Date: 02/2010

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Approved:

William J. Koenig, MD, FACEP
S-SV EMS Medical Director

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S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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When information comes to the attention of the Medical Director of the local EMS Agency that an EMT-P license holder has committed any act or omission that appears to constitute grounds for disciplinary action under Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, the Medical Director of the local EMS Agency may evaluate the information to determine if there is reason to believe that disciplinary action may be necessary. (California Health and Safety Code §1798.201(a)).

B. Recommendation by Medical Director.

If the Medical Director of the S-SV EMS Agency sends a recommendation to the State EMS Authority for further investigation or discipline of the license holder, the recommendation shall include all documentary evidence collected by the Medical Director in evaluating whether or not to make that recommendation. The recommendation and accompanying evidence shall be deemed in the nature of an investigative communication and be protected by Section 6254 of the California Government Code. In deciding what level of disciplinary action is appropriate in the case, the authority shall consult with the Medical Director of the S-SV EMS Agency. (California Health and Safety Code §1798.201(b)).

C. Temporary suspension

1. The director of the State EMS Authority or the Medical Director of the Local EMS Agency, after consultation with the relevant employer, may temporarily suspend, prior to hearing, any EMT-P license upon a determination that:
 - a. The licensee has engaged in acts or omissions that constitute grounds for revocation of the EMT-P license; and
 - b. Permitting the licensee to continue to engage in the licensed activity, or permitting the licensee to continue in the licensed activity without restriction, would present an imminent threat to the public health or safety. (California Health and Safety Code §1798.202(a)).
2. When the suspension is initiated by the local EMS Agency, the local EMS Agency shall notify the licensee that his or her EMT-P license is suspended and shall identify the reasons therefor. Within three (3) working days of the initiation of the suspension by S-SV EMS Agency, S-SV EMS Agency shall transmit to the State EMS Authority, via facsimile transmission or overnight mail, all documentary evidence collected by S-SV EMS Agency relative to the decision to temporarily suspend. Within two (2) working days of receipt of the S-SV EMS Agency's documentary evidence, the director of the State EMS Authority shall determine the need for the licensure action. Part of that determination shall include an evaluation of the need for continuance of the suspension during the licensure action review process. If the director of the

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State EMS Authority determines that the temporary suspension order should not continue, the State EMS Authority shall immediately notify the licensee that the temporary suspension is lifted. If the director of the State EMS Authority determines that the temporary suspension order should continue, the State EMS Authority shall immediately notify the licensee of the decision to continue the temporary suspension and shall, within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the EMS Agency's documentary evidence, serve the licensee with a temporary suspension order and accusation pursuant to California Government Code § 11503, 11505, 11507. Within fifteen (15) days after service of the accusation the respondent may file with the State EMS Authority a Notice of Defense pursuant to California Government Code § 11506. (California Health and Safety Code §1798.202 (b)). If the respondent files a notice of defense, the respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits within thirty (30) days of the State EMS Authority's receipt of the notice of defense (California Government Code §11506; California Health and Safety Code §1798.202 (d)).