

## **SUMMARY OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 28 OF THE SONOMA COUNTY CODE**

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On November 5, 2019 the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma will introduce an ordinance amending Chapter 28 of the Sonoma County Code - Emergency and Pre-Hospital Medical Services System. The Board of Supervisors will consider adoption of the ordinance on or after November 12, 2019.

The proposed ordinance will amend Chapter 28 of the Sonoma County Code:

1. Section 28-1 provides the title of this ordinance.
2. Section 28-2 provides the purpose this ordinance.
3. Section 28-3 provides Definitions related to the ordinance, including, among other things,
  - 2) "Ambulance" means any privately or publicly owned vehicle especially designed, constructed, modified, equipped, arranged, maintained, and operated for the sole purpose of transporting sick, injured, infirm, convalescent or otherwise incapacitated persons, and expectant mothers.
  - 3) "Ambulance Dispatch Center" means any entity that dispatches ambulances in response to requests for service through any means of communication.
  - 4) "Ambulance Service Provider" means any person or entity who, for monetary, public service, or other consideration, transports, in one or more air or ground ambulances providing any class of service, one or more persons needing medical attention or services from any location in the County.
  - 5) "Ambulance Service Provider Permit" means a permit issued by the LEMSA in accordance with LEMSA policy authorizing the holder to act as an Ambulance Service Provider within the County.
  - 12) "Dispatch Steering Committee" means a committee established by the legal entity having responsibility for EMS Dispatch services. The role of the committee is to establish general and medical dispatch policies with input from the affected agencies.
  - 14) "Emergency Medical Care Council (EMCC)" means the Emergency Medical Care Committee of Sonoma County appointed by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 1797.272.
  - 17) "EMS Dispatch" means the Ambulance Dispatch Center designated by the LEMSA for the dispatch of EMS responders to Emergency Calls.
  - 19) "EMS System" means a specifically organized arrangement which provides for the personnel, facilities, and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery of medical

care services under emergency conditions, as described in Health and Safety Code section 1797.78.

21) "EOA" means Exclusive Operating Area as defined in Health & Safety Code section 1797.85

23) "LEMSA" means the Local EMS Agency established by the County, designated by the Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1797.200.

24) "LEMSA Medical Director" means the licensed physician and surgeon designated by the County to provide medical control and assure medical accountability throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of the EMS System in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 1797.202

26) "Medical control" means the medical management of the emergency medical services system pursuant to the Emergency Medical Services System and Pre-hospital Emergency Care Personnel Act of 1980.

29) "Permittee" means an Ambulance Service Provider which has been granted a permit by the LEMSA to engage in a business or service in which ambulances are operated.

30) "Provider Agreement" means any agreement between an EMS Entity and the LEMSA specifying terms and conditions for the provision of EMS including, but not limited to, class of service to be provided, LEMSA approval for optional scope of practice, participation in LEMSA data and quality improvement activities and/or performance standards.

31) Qualified Elected Governing Entity (QEGE) means a City, Special District providing ambulance services or the County.

4. Section 28-4, Administrative Authorities, provides that the Department of Health Services is designated as the LEMSA, that LEMSA functions are the responsibility of the LEMSA Medical Director, the role of the EMCC, and that there will be periodic reviews of the EMS system.
5. Section 28-5, Services Requiring Authorization, provide that EMS entities operating in the County may be authorized by the LEMSA.
6. Section 28-6, Ambulance Service Provider Permits, states that all entities providing ambulance services in the County, except public agencies, must obtain a permit from the LEMSA.
7. Section 28-7, Provider Agreement Required, provides that, with some limited exceptions, any EMS entity providing emergency medical services in the County must enter into an agreement with the LEMSA.

8. Section 28-8, Response Zones, provides for a process to be followed when there are proposed zone changes to the EMS plan. The process includes involvement of the applicable governing bodies and LAFCO. Any affected agency can challenge the decision by requesting a hearing under Section 28-21.
9. Section 28-9, Data Collection and Reporting, discussed the types of data collected and its uses.
10. Section 28-10, EMS Dispatch, provides that EMS Dispatch is responsible for overall coordination of EMS and ambulance resources during emergency calls.
11. Section 28-11, Private Dispatch of Ambulances, provides that private entities must obtain LEMSA approval.
12. Section 28-12, Public Provider Dispatch, allows public entities to use their own dispatch systems in coordination with EMS Dispatch.
13. Section 28-13, Dispatch Standards, discusses the processing of emergency calls.
14. Section 28-14, Cost Recovery, provides that the LEMSA has the ability to recover certain specified costs.
15. Section 28-15, Funds, discusses that special funds have been established pursuant to state law.
16. Section 28-16, Policies and Procedures, provides that the LEMSA Medical Director shall develop and implement policies and procedures in a specified manner, and following adoption, an affected agency may request a hearing under Section 28-21 to challenge a policy.
17. Section 28-17, Exclusive Operating Areas, provides that the LEMSA may establish an EOA, as allowed by law, discusses the competitive process, and provides that an entity granted an EOA shall enter into an agreement with the County, which is approved by the Board of Supervisors.
18. Section 28-18, Emergency and Disaster Operations, provides that, during certain defined emergencies, ambulance providers shall assist the LEMSA, and that the Department of Health Services shall fulfill the role specified for the Medical Health Operational Coordinator in accordance with Health and Safety Code 1797.153
19. Section 28-19, Suspension and Revocation of Permits or Provider Agreements, provides that permits and agreements may be revoked or suspended for good cause, subject to certain procedures, and allows for a hearing under Section 28-21.

20. Section 28-20, Immediate Suspension or Revocation of Permit, provides for the ability to take immediate action when there is an immediate threat to public health and safety, and allows for a hearing under Section 28-21.
21. Section 28-21, Hearing Procedure, provides for a hearing to be conducted when provided for under the ordinance and the rules for such hearings. Allows expansion of existing medical review panel authority established in Health and Safety Code Section 1798. (c) for the review of the medical effect of LEMSA policy created in accordance with 28-16.
22. Section 28-22, Enforcement, provides that any new requirements in this ordinance will not be enforced on existing system participants until one year from the date of passage.

Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for public inspection during regular business hours in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 575 Administration Drive, Room 100A, Santa Rosa, California and on-line at <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CAO/BOS-Items-of-Significant-Interest/>.

Sheryl Bratton  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk