



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Virginia Hastings, Executive Director
Reza Vaezazizi, M.D., Medical Director

DATE: February 19, 2010

TO: ICEMA Certified EMTs

FROM: Virginia Hastings
ICEMA Executive Director

SUBJECT: MANDATED DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) BACKGROUND CHECKS

Effective July 1, 2010, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) will implement significant changes in EMT regulations. Two of the new regulations will have implications for most certifying individuals:

- A. EMSA will implement a new Central Registry which local EMS agencies and other certifying entities will be required to maintain. The public will have access to obtaining certification information including whether the certification is active and if it is in good standing. The cost of maintaining this registry will be borne by certifying EMTs. The EMSA will assess a \$75 certification fee for every initial application and a \$37 fee for recertification. Local EMS agencies and other certifying entities will collect the funds on behalf of EMSA at the time of application. EMSA's certification fee is in addition to the ICEMA certification/recertification fee, which is currently \$32.
- B. All EMTs must have a California Department of Justice (DOJ) background investigation with Subsequent Arrest Notifications (LiveScan) with State and Federal Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) on file with the certifying entity or their EMS employer. The cost for this is currently \$36 for the DOJ background check, and \$18 for the FBI CORI background check.

The following scenarios have been developed to assist you through this transition:

- A. If a background check (LiveScan) was completed for ICEMA or another certifying entity prior to July 1, 2010, you will be "grandfathered" into the new Central Registry. When the EMT applies for recertification, ICEMA will collect a \$37 EMSA recertification fee in addition to the ICEMA recertification fee, which is currently \$32, for a total cost of \$69.
- B. If a background check (LiveScan) was completed for the purposes of employment and that employer is an ambulance service permitted by the California Highway Patrol or a public safety agency that employs firefighters, lifeguards or peace officers, the EMT **may** also be "grandfathered" into the registry, provided the employer submits written documentation to ICEMA confirming:
 1. Employer conducted a previous State level CORI on the EMT prior to July 1, 2010.

2. Employer is actively receiving subsequent arrest notification reports from the California DOJ prior to July 1, 2010 on the EMT.
3. Nothing in the CORI search precluded the applicant from obtaining EMT certification as outlined in Division 9, Title 22, Chapter 6, Section 100216 of the California Health and Safety Code:
 - a. Has committed any sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code.
 - b. Has been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire.
 - c. Has been convicted of two (2) or more felonies.
 - d. Is on parole or probation for any felony.
 - e. Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding fifteen (15) years for the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter.
 - f. Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding ten (10) years for any offense punishable as a felony.
 - g. Has been convicted of two (2) or more misdemeanors within the preceding five (5) years for any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics or addictive or dangerous drugs.
 - h. Has been convicted of two (2) or more misdemeanors within the preceding five (5) years for any offense relating to force, threat, violence, or intimidation.
 - i. Has been convicted within the preceding five (5) years of any theft related misdemeanor.

ICEMA is currently working with its qualifying governmental providers to provide this information. Check with your EMS Coordinator to see if your department has submitted this information on your behalf.

- C. If you do not meet either of the requirements above, it is recommended that you complete the LiveScan process as soon as possible to avoid fees which go into effect July 1, 2010. LiveScans processed by ICEMA prior to June 30, 2010 will be submitted to the Central Registry. Approximate LiveScan cost is:

\$36 for DOJ background check fee
\$15 fingerprint fee (varies)

At the time of recertification, submit application to ICEMA and pay:

\$37 for EMSA recertification fee
\$32 for ICEMA recertification fee

Total cost for LiveScan and recertification is approximately \$120

D. If you have not completed the LiveScan process or are unable to provide documentation of completion after July 1, 2010, you will be required to complete it prior to recertification. You will be required to have DOJ and FBI background checks conducted by the certifying entity which must include primary notification to the EMT certifying entity and secondary notification to the EMS Authority (EMSA). Cost for this is estimated at:

\$75 for EMSA initial certification fee
\$36 for DOJ background check fee
\$18 for FBI background check fee
\$15 fingerprint fee (varies)
\$32 for ICEMA certification fee
\$176 total estimated cost

The ICEMA LiveScan application and instructions are available on the ICEMA website at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/icema/cert/Livescan/livescan.htm>.

Live Scan locations are available at <http://ag.ca.gov/fingerprints/publications/contact.php>.

If you should have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to call the ICEMA office at (909) 388-5823.

Enclosure

cc: EMS Officers
Fire Chiefs
Private Ambulance CEOs

CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD INFORMATION
VERIFICATION FORM

NAME: _____

EMPLOYER OR CERTIFYING ENTITY: _____

CERTIFICATION NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE): _____

DATE OF LIVESCAN: _____

OFFENDER RECORD INFORMATION (ORI) # _____

As the employer/certifying agency for the above named individual, I certify:

1. This employer/certifying entity conducted a state level Criminal Offender Record Investigation (CORI) on the EMT prior to July 1, 2010.
2. This employer/certifying entity is actively receiving subsequent arrest notification reports from the California DOJ.
3. Nothing in the CORI search precludes the applicant from obtaining EMT-I certification as outlined in Division 9, Title 22, Chapter 6, Section 100216 of the California Health and Safety Code:
 - a. Has committed any sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code.
 - b. Has been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire.
 - c. Has been convicted of two (2) or more felonies.
 - d. Is on parole or probation for any felony.
 - e. Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding fifteen (15) years for the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter.
 - f. Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding ten (10) years for any offense punishable as a felony.
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 - i. Has been convicted within the preceding five (5) years of any theft related misdemeanor.

Signature

Title