

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties Daniel Munoz, Interim EMS Administrator Reza Vaezazizi, MD, Medical Director

> Effective Date: March 1, 2022 Supersedes: #2021.09.30

ICEMA EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE #2022.03.01

WHEREAS, despite sustained efforts, the long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to put a strain on the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System in San Bernardino County; and

WHEREAS, paramedic staffing shortages resulting from delayed training programs due to pandemic restrictions continue to be an ongoing challenge; and

WHEREAS, the above described impacts created a condition of extreme risk to the EMS System impacting EMS resources and the safety of persons within the territorial limits of San Bernardino County, which conditions are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of individual EMS providers in San Bernardino County, and require the combined resources of First Responder agencies and transport providers to maximize the number of available resources in order to maintain the ability to meet response needs.

IT IS HERBY DIRECTED THAT:

- 1. Implementation will span across all Operational Areas within San Bernardino County.
 - a. Response plans may or may not have a transport provider assigned to the initial dispatch.
- 2. Dispatch Centers may send the closest most appropriate ICEMA approved ambulance without concern for jurisdictional boundaries.
 - a. Non-ambulance alternate transport vehicles may be utilized if:
 - (1) Dispatch Centers are unable to fill the incident request with an ALS ambulance, an assistance by hire ALS ambulance, or a BLS ambulance.
 - (2) On scene crew has a critical patient where an ambulance in unavailable, has no ETA, or an extended ETA.
- 3. Consideration may be given to rescind or modify this directive if:
 - a. Restoration of adequate staffing levels.
- 4. This directive will expire with the termination of the Local EMS System Emergency.