

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY**



Program Document: **On-Viewing Medical Emergencies by ALS and BLS Providers**

Policy Number: 2055.14

Initial Date: 08/13/98

Last Approved Date: 03/13/25

Effective Date: 11/01/25

Next Review Date: 03/01/27

Signature on File

EMS Medical Director

Signature on File

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To establish the coordination and utilization of Emergency Medical Service (EMS) resources when coming upon the scene of a medical or traumatic emergency.

Authority:

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Definitions:

- A. Provider - An Advanced Life Support (ALS) or Basic Life Support (BLS) transporting or non-transporting service provider, including both public and private service providers.
- B. On-view - The occurrence of a BLS or ALS provider coming upon the scene of a medical or traumatic emergency or is flagged down by bystanders requesting assistance for a medical or traumatic emergency for which that provider has not been dispatched.
- C. Sacramento Regional Fire Emergency Communications Center (SRFECC) - The public safety agency that provides the centralized dispatching for the various fire departments and EMS providers throughout Sacramento County. SRFECC is responsible for the coordinated dispatch of fire and EMS resources within the 9-1-1 system.

Protocol:

- A. When an ALS or BLS provider's unit comes upon the scene of a medical or traumatic emergency without being dispatched by SRFECC to that

emergency, the crew of that unit shall immediately notify the SRFECC of the location and nature of that emergency.

- B. If an ALS or BLS provider is transporting a patient.
- C. If no EMS responders are on scene and the on-viewing unit is not enroute to another emergency, or not transporting a patient, the crew of that unit must stop and render aid including transport, if appropriate, or wait until other EMS resources arrive.
- D. If other EMS resources are on scene the provider may stop and ask if assistance is needed.
- E. The decision as to the appropriate agency to transport the patient(s) shall remain with the highest licensed medical professional on scene (Health and Safety Code Division 5, Chapter 5, 1798.6 (a)(c)) in conjunction with the incident commander on scene.