

PREHOSPITAL POLICY

Policy Reference No: 305
Effective Date: 3/1/97
Supersedes: 11/1/96

SUBJECT: EMS PERSONNEL BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENT

I. PURPOSE:

To provide a method to ascertain the criminal background history of persons applying for certification as EMS prehospital care personnel in San Luis Obispo County.

II. AUTHORITY:

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200.
- B. Title 22, California Code of Regulations Section 100206, et. seq.

III. DEFINITIONS:

- A. "Prehospital Care Personnel" - For the purposes of this document, the term Prehospital Care Personnel shall apply to Emergency Medical Technicians-I personnel.
 - B. "Certification" - For the purposes of this document, certification shall mean EMT-I certification.
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County Health Officer

Date

Executive Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

Date

Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

Date

IV. POLICY:

- A. All applicants for San Luis Obispo County certification shall complete a California Bureau of Criminal Identification (CBCI) background check, including fingerprinting, as a condition of initial certification or recertification in San Luis Obispo County. Applicants must also submit a Department of Motor Vehicles driving record dated not more than seven days prior to the submission of an application for certification.
- B. Exceptions
 1. Law Enforcement Agencies
 - a) Currently employed County and municipal law enforcement personnel or employees in the County of San Luis Obispo may satisfy this requirement by presentation of a photo identification card from his/her agency and a letter from the employer stating that the applicant has no CBCI criminal violations or misdemeanor moving violations on record. Employment status will be verified. (Law Enforcement background checks are defined by GC 1030.)
 - b) If the applicant has a criminal background that would mandate certification with probation or the denial of certification, as defined in the EMS Agency Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy, the employer shall provide the EMS Agency with a notification of status of eligibility. This notice shall state the number and level of offenses, either misdemeanor or felony. The EMS Agency shall then assess the information and then make a determination based on the Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy.
 - c) The employer must continually monitor the status of prehospital care personnel and notify the EMS Agency immediately of any changes in status.
 2. Fire Departments
 - a) Currently employed County and municipal fire department personnel in the County of San Luis Obispo may satisfy this requirement by presentation of a photo identification card from his/her agency and a letter from the employer stating that the applicant has no CBCI criminal violations and misdemeanor moving violations record. Employment status will be verified.
 - b) If the applicant has a criminal background that would mandate certification with probation or the denial of certification, as defined in the EMS Agency Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy, the employer shall provide the EMS Agency with a notification of status of eligibility. This notice shall state the number and level of offenses, either misdemeanor or felony. The EMS Agency shall then assess the information and then make a determination based on the Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy.
 - c) The employer must continually monitor the status of prehospital care personnel and notify the EMS Agency immediately of any changes in status.

3. Federal Departments

- a) Currently employed Federal personnel assigned in the County of San Luis Obispo may satisfy this requirement by presentation of a photo identification card from his/her agency and a letter from the employer stating that the applicant has no CBCI criminal and misdemeanor moving violations record. Employment status will be verified.
- b) If the applicant has a criminal background that would mandate certification with probation or the denial of certification, as defined in the EMS Agency Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy, the employer shall provide the EMS Agency with a notification of status of eligibility. This notice shall state the number and level of offenses, either misdemeanor or felony. The EMS Agency shall then assess the information and then make a determination based on the Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy.
- c) The employer must continually monitor the status of prehospital care personnel and notify the EMS Agency immediately of any changes in status.

4. Other Municipal, Government or Private Service Employees

- a) Currently employed municipal, government or private service personnel assigned in the County of San Luis Obispo may satisfy this requirement by presentation of a photo identification card from his/her agency and a letter from the employer stating that the applicant has no CBCI criminal and misdemeanor moving violations record. Employment status will be verified.
- b) If the applicant has a criminal background that would mandate certification with probation or the denial of certification, as defined in the EMS Agency Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy, the employer shall provide the EMS Agency with a notification of status of eligibility. This notice shall state the number and level of offenses, either misdemeanor or felony. The EMS Agency shall then assess the information and then make a determination based on the Determination of Eligibility for Prehospital Care Certification Policy.
- c) The employer must continually monitor the status of prehospital care personnel and notify the EMS Agency immediately of any changes in status.

5. All agencies granted exceptions must agree in writing to notify the EMS Agency of any past, current or future convictions of employees.

- C. The San Luis Obispo County EMS Agency shall contract with the California Bureau of Criminal Identification for subsequent arrest notification for applicants not exempted from the normal procedure.
- D. Criteria in Health and Safety Code Section 1798.200 and the EMS Agency Determination of Eligibility for Certification Policy, shall be used to determine whether certification is given or denied based upon

the results of the background check.

V. PROCEDURE:

- A. All applicants for certification shall contact the San Luis Obispo EMS Agency to determine the procedure to follow for the criminal background checks.
- B. This procedure applies to:
 - 1. All persons applying for initial California EMT-I certification in San Luis Obispo County or EMT-I recertification in San Luis Obispo County for the first time.
 - 2. All persons applying for recertification by San Luis Obispo County as an EMT-I previously certified by another county in California.