

Policy 320.00 Ambulance Dispatch

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the dispatching advanced life support (ALS) ambulances to emergency requests for service and coverage plan for the Tuolumne County Ambulance Zones established by Policy 401.00.

Authority

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.220.

Policy

- I) General day-to-day ambulance staffing in Tuolumne County consists of 5 (ALS) ambulances with a sixth ambulance flexibly staffed. The ambulances are:
 - A) Medic 10
 - B) Medic 11
 - C) Medic 12
 - D) Medic 13 – flexibly staffed
 - E) Medic 20
 - F) Medic 41
- II) The closest available ALS Ambulance is to be dispatched to an emergency request for service. The closest ambulance will be determined by Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) Dispatch by using RIMS geo-fencing or RIMS mapping. Tuolumne County Ambulances which are closer to the scene of an emergency call than the ambulance being dispatched are to notify TCSO Dispatch of their location and take the call.
 - A) In all zones except zone 4, the second closest ambulance shall be dispatched to Alpha and Omega calls if Medic 41 is closest, to allow Medic 41 to immediately return to Zone 4 for coverage.
- III) An ALS ambulance is to be dispatched to all emergency requests for service. However, a basic life support (BLS) ambulance may also be utilized under certain circumstances. Refer to Policy No. 432.00 Staffing Level – Response to Emergency Requests for additional information.
- IV) This policy may be verbally changed by the:
 - A) EMS Medical Director, EMS Administrator, or Director of Health and Human Services Agency, or their designee, based on ambulance availability, disaster/MCI, extreme weather, or other emergency condition.