

## Memorandum of Agreement

### Between Sierra Medical Services Alliance And Spalding Community Services District

This MOA is made and entered into this 7th day of September, 2010 by and between the Sierra Medical Services Alliance ("SEMSA"), a non-profit corporation doing business in California, and Spalding Community Services District (SCSD) of Lassen County, California.

Whereas, SEMSA operates medical ground ambulance services and is the exclusive provider of such services per contract within Zone 1 of Lassen County, including the Spalding area, and,

Whereas, SCSD operates a Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) which provides EMS first response services within the Spalding service area, and,

Whereas, both parties desire to enter into this agreement to assure that an emergency medical patient, who calls 911 in the Spalding area, is responded to, cared for and transported to the appropriate hospital as soon as possible.

Now, therefore, the parties hereto mutually agree as follows:

#### **The Spalding / Eagle Lake Area is Remote with Special Circumstances:**

The Spalding / Eagle Lake area of Lassen County is somewhat remote from the other populated areas of Lassen County, but in the summer months, large numbers of people gather at the Lake area where a County designated ambulance unit is not stationed. This then requires one of the County designated ambulances to respond long distances to reach this area in the event of a 911 medical aid call resulting in an extended period of time to reach the victim.

During the winter months, road closures caused by heavy snow in this area may also prevent the County designated ambulance unit from reaching this area at all for extended periods of time during a 911 call for medical assistance.

The SCSD VFD, already located in this remote area, provides fire first response services to this area and responds to these 911 medical aid calls in their life support vehicle, which may in an extreme emergency situation, be used to transport the patient from their present scene location to a landing zone to meet a medical helicopter to air transport the victim out when such services are determined to be medically necessary, and / or when SEMSA is unable to reach the patients location due to extended response times to this remote area, or due to road conditions at the time of the emergency call.

#### **SEMSA Agrees to the Special Circumstances:**

When such unusual and special circumstances exist as outlined herein, SEMSA agrees to allow the SCSD VFD to move the emergency medical patient in need from the scene of the emergency to a landing zone where a waiting medical helicopter may care for and air transport the patient to the hospital. SCSD VFD will provide BLS services and transportation for the patient with at least one EMT on the transport unit. SEMSA's agreement is subject to also the agreement herein from Nor-Cal EMSA to allow for the following special circumstances.

When it is determined on the scene by the responding SCSD VFD emergency medical personnel that a patient's medical condition is critical and in need of immediate air medical transport due to a potential life threatening situation which cannot wait for the responding ground ambulance to arrive, or, when it is determined after radio communication from the responding SEMSA unit that the responding unit cannot reach the patients location due to road conditions and the patient must be transported right away to the hospital, SCSD VFD may call for a medical helicopter to respond and may move the patient to the LZ location to meet the medical helicopter for transport to the hospital.

#### **Nor-Cal EMSA Agrees to the Special Circumstances:**

When such unusual and special circumstances exist as outlined herein, Nor-Cal EMSA agrees to allow the SCSD VFD to move the emergency medical patient in need from the scene of the emergency to a landing zone where a waiting medical helicopter may care for and air transport the patient to the hospital. Nor-Cal EMSA's agreement is subject to also the agreement herein from SEMSA to allow for the following special circumstances.

When it is determined on the scene by the responding SCSD VFD emergency medical personnel that a patient's medical condition is critical and in need of immediate air medical transport due to a potential life threatening situation which cannot wait for the responding ground ambulance to arrive, or, when it is determined after radio communication from the responding SEMSA unit that the responding unit cannot reach the patients location due to road conditions and the patient must be transported right away to the hospital, SCSD VFD may call for a medical helicopter to respond and may move the patient to the LZ location to meet the medical helicopter for transport to the hospital.

**Requests, Responses, and Reporting Provisions:**

1. All initial requests for emergency aid, as usual, shall utilize the 911 system and shall be directed to the 911 emergency dispatch center who shall dispatch the usual and appropriate emergency resources to respond as normally done.
2. After the SCSD VFD arrives on the scene and assesses the condition of the patient and begins initial emergency care (per Nor-Cal EMSA protocol), if it is determined by the highest medical authority on the scene that the patient's condition meets the condition criteria outlined above and the patient is stabilized, or, if the SCSD VFD personnel are radio notified by the responding SEMSA unit that they cannot get through to the scene due to road conditions, the SCSD VFD may then notify the 911 dispatch center (via radio) to also dispatch a medical helicopter to the scene.
3. At all times during the response and the call, the SCSD VFD shall keep the responding SEMSA unit advised as to the actions being taken by the fire first response personnel on the scene (subject to the above), and when the responding SEMSA unit may cancel its response (only after the first response unit has reached the LZ with the patient).
4. SEMSA shall also keep the SCSD VFD advised as to their response location and status as it changes if they are unable to reach the scene and must stop due to road conditions en-route to the scene.
5. A First Responder Patient Care Report shall be completed by the responding SCSD VFD crew outlining the condition of the patient found on the scene, the treatment rendered by the crew on scene and during the transport to the LZ, and the rationale used to determine why the medical helicopter was necessary to transport the patient.
6. A copy of each such First Responder Patient Care Report (where a medical helicopter was called), shall be forwarded to both SEMSA and Nor-Cal EMSA within 72 hours of the call. When any party to this agreement believes it is necessary for all parties to meet and discuss any call, or the provisions of this agreement, or other matters, which may affect patient care on any call, the other parties shall agree to make their best efforts to meet and discuss any concerns.

**General Provisions:**

1. The signatories to this agreement shall, follow the medical protocols, guidelines, policies, and practices that are otherwise utilized within their respective jurisdictions.
2. The signatories to this agreement shall designate individuals representing each agency responsible to periodically review the operational plan herein to assure we are doing the very best we can (collectively) for the patient.
3. This agreement shall remain in full force and effect from the date hereof until terminated by any party hereto. Each party hereto may withdraw from this agreement by giving thirty (30) days notice in writing to the other party.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed as of the day and year herein above written.

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For SEMSA Title

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For SCSD Title

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For SCSD Title

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For Nor-Cal EMSA Title