

**POLICY #209: GUIDELINES FOR USE OF COUNTY OF SAN LUIS
OBISPO PARAMEDICS OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS
OBISPO**

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish policy that will permit paramedics accredited in the County of San Luis Obispo (SLO) to practice paramedic-level skills while on duty outside of the County of SLO.

II. SCOPE

- A. This policy applies to any paramedic accredited in the County of SLO who is on duty with a County of SLO approved ALS provider, who is part of an emergency operation provided under circumstances of urgent and extraordinary need for public safety and emergency medical services (EMS) outside of the County of SLO.

III. DEFINITIONS

- Controlled substance: Any substance listed as a Schedule I through IV drug in the Controlled Substance Act [i.e. Fentanyl, Morphine, Midazolam, and Diazepam].

IV. POLICY

- A. A paramedic may perform paramedic-level skills during emergency operations outside the County of SLO in compliance with the California paramedic scope of practice and in compliance with County of SLO EMS Agency (EMS Agency) policies during the treatment or transportation of a patient or until transfer of that patient to a locally accredited paramedic.
- B. Paramedics operating during emergency operations as a fire-line medic shall be subject to the provisions of California OES/FIRESCOPE Position Manual ICS 223-11, and shall comply with ICS-223-11 as applicable to their assignment.
- C. It is the intent of this policy to permit the provision of ALS care during emergency operations. It does not replace existing EMS or circumvent the established response of EMS in locations outside the County of SLO.
- D. The paramedic must have access to the ALS equipment as required by EMS Agency Policy #205: Advanced Life Support. The EMS Agency Medical Director may vary the complement of required equipment, medication and supplies for special assignments or circumstances (i.e. ICS-223-11 fire-line medic). For controlled substance inventory and security requirements, reference Attachment A of this policy.

V. PROCEDURE

- A. All ALS equipment and supplies are to remain under the direct control of a paramedic at all times. If a paramedic is on an extended assignment (i.e. special event, fire-line) and is relieved of duty and another paramedic does not assume control of the ALS equipment and supplies, all such equipment and supplies must be secured in such a manner as to prevent access by non-paramedic personnel. Controlled substances will be secure per EMS Agency Policy# 211: Management of Controlled Substances.
- B. Paramedics shall follow the directions of the Incident Commander or other designated ICS official, as appropriate.

VI. AUTHORITY

- California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 9, Section 100165.
- Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.204, and 1797.206.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Fire-Line Medic Program – Controlled Substance

FIRE-LINE MEDIC PROGRAM – CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE INVENTORY

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE INVENTORY

As identified in EMS Agency Policy# 205: Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support Equipment and Supply, ALS responders shall carry a minimum controlled substance inventory. Additionally, FIRESCOPE ICS 223-11 defines recommended inventories of controlled substances, subject to the direction of the EMS Agency Medical Director.

In circumstances requiring the paramedic to deploy to the fire-line on foot, the following controlled substance inventory shall be allowable:

- Midazolam (10 mg) 2 Quantity
- Fentanyl (100 mcg/2 mL) 2 Quantity

All remaining controlled substance inventory shall remain secured in the paramedic vehicle in an EMS Agency approved double-lock system.

STORAGE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE INVENTORY

ALS units shall secure controlled substances in compliance with EMS Agency Policy# 211: Management of Controlled Substances. In circumstances requiring the paramedic to deploy to the fire-line on foot, the controlled substance inventory shall be secured as described:

- Fire-line paramedic backpack – Double-locking system with controlled substances secured in a durable container within backpack.
- Fire line paramedic backpack – Must be in constant possession of assigned paramedic

When paramedic returns to their vehicle, controlled substances shall be returned to the vehicle's double-locking system.