

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND
TRAUMA SYSTEMS

RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR
MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS

Promulgated Under the Authority of Act 1255 OF 1997

Effective _____

By the Arkansas State Board of Health

Arkansas Department of Health
Little Rock, Arkansas
(Dr. Fay Boozman, Director)

RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS

AUTHORITY

The following Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Emergency Medical Services and Air Ambulance Operations are duly adopted and promulgated by the Arkansas State Board of Health pursuant to the authority expressly conferred by Act 435 of 1975, Act 293 of 1981, Act 345 of 1987, Act 1255 of 1997, Act 60 of 1999 and the Laws of the State of Arkansas including without limitation, Act 96 of 1913 (Arkansas Statutes, 1947, Section 82-110).

SECTION I. DEFINITIONS

1. Advanced Life Support (ALS) Protocols: The provision of skills and procedures that are established in the ALS Protocols approved by the service Medical Director and the Department.
2. Air Ambulance: Any privately or publicly owned helicopter or fixed wing aircraft specially designed, constructed or modified, maintained or equipped to be used for the transportation of patients.
3. Non-specialty Care Air Ambulance Service: An entity operating an aircraft used for air transportation that is specifically designed to accommodate the aeromedical needs of persons who are ill, injured, wounded, or otherwise mentally or physically incapacitated or helpless; who may require emergency medical care in-flight, and who, in a physician's opinion, cannot be safely transported on a standard commercial or charter flight. Such a service includes suitable aircraft, flight crews, and aircraft maintenance in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulation FAR 135, adequate aeromedical crewmembers, aircraft fittings and equipment, and provision for medical control of aeromedical crewmembers.
4. Ambulance: Those vehicles used for transporting any person by stretcher or gurney upon the streets or highways of Arkansas, excluding vehicles intended solely for personal use by immediate family members.
5. Ambulance Service: Those services authorized and licensed by the Department to provide care and transportation of patients upon the streets and highways of Arkansas.
6. Basic Life Support (BLS) Protocols: The provision of skills and procedures that are established in the Statewide BLS Protocols recommended and approved by the Governor's Advisory Council on EMS and the Department.
7. Communications: The required radio and hard-wire communications utilized to serve as an alerting mechanism as well as an information gathering system to determine resources and needs.
8. Department: The Arkansas Department of Health.

9. Division of EMS and Trauma Systems (DEMS&TS): The organization within the Department responsible for the enforcement of EMS legislation within the State of Arkansas.
10. Emergency Communications Center (ECC): The communications center operated by the Department.
11. Emergency Medical Services: The transportation and medical care provided the ill or injured prior to arrival at a medical facility by a certified emergency medical technician (EMT) or other health care provider and continuation of the initial emergency care within a medical facility subject to the approval of the medical staff and governing board of that facility.
12. Incident Commander: The individual who has jurisdictional responsibility for the MCI.
13. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI): An incident in which many people are suddenly injured or become ill which results in the region's available resources to become overwhelmed; which require two or more additional ambulance services to respond to the same event; and/or assistance from the Department is needed to help coordinate medical resources for the sick and injured.
14. Mutual Aid: The assistance given to the ambulance service that is primarily responsible for the MCI.
15. Primary Ambulance Service: The first ambulance service on-scene of an MCI shall establish Incident Command, however, if the ambulance is not part of the jurisdiction for that area, then command will be established but released to the ambulance service responsible for that jurisdiction.
16. Region: A geographic area of the state that is comprised of three ambulance services.
17. Resources: The combination of personnel and equipment used in the response to the incident.
18. Triage Officer: The individual responsible for placing patients in the appropriate category of illness or injury based upon their severity.

SECTION II. Primary Ambulance Service Responsibility

1. When an MCI occurs that overwhelms local resources and requires mutual aid, contact the following:
 - a. Local medical support
 - b. Local law enforcement

- c. Local fire service
 - d. ECC
2. The following information should be relayed when requesting assistance from the Division of EMS & Trauma Systems office or other state resources:
- a. Who was notified prior to state contact
 - b. Brief description of incident
 - c. Estimated resources needed
 - d. Identify if on-scene assistance is needed
 - e. Identify In-charge member
 - f. Staging and incident locations
 - g. Radio frequency in use for initial contact
3. Implement local Emergency Management System and use the following frequencies (if they are different from your local frequencies) to communicate with the mutual aid resources responding:
- a. Enroute to scene: 155.235 mHz
 - b. At scene: 155.280 mHz
 - c. Departing scene: 155.340 Hz

SECTION III. Licensed Ambulance Service Responsibility When Responding to Mutual Aid Request:

- 1. Follow service ALS Protocols and State approved BLS Protocols when requested to respond to an incident.
- 2. Respond to Department request for assistance as long as the primary coverage area served is covered.
- 3. Utilize the appropriate radio frequencies listed in Section II.3.

SECTION IV. Department Responsibilities

- 1. The DEMS&TS will act as a resource for the collection, analysis, and coordination of requests for medical and public health assistance during an MCI, and will maintain the status of responding resources for mutual aid.

2. The DEMS&TS will develop and maintain a list of response equipment and personnel resources.
3. The DEMS&TS will develop and maintain MCI Reporting forms.
4. The ECC will provide assistance according to their approved policies and procedures during an MCI.
5. The Department will coordinate with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) following the declaration of a disaster by the Governor. Annex I of the State Emergency Operations Plan will be followed.

CERTIFICATION

This will certify that the foregoing Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Emergency Medical Services and Air Ambulance Operations were adopted by the Arkansas State Board of Health at a regular board session held in Little Rock, Arkansas, on the th day of , 2000.

Fay Boozman, MD
Secretary, Arkansas State Board of Health
Director, Arkansas Department of Health

The foregoing Rules and Regulations having been filed in my Office are hereby in compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act on this th day of , 2000.

Mike Huckabee
Governor