
ON VIEWING AN ACCIDENT - NON-CONTRACT AMBULANCE

1. **INTRODUCTION:** Ambulance response to the scene of a motor vehicle accident shall only be dispatched through County Dispatch (ALCO-CMED 925-422-7595). If a non-contract ambulance company is called to respond to an accident, the dispatcher should immediately call County Dispatch to initiate the appropriate public safety and ambulance response.
2. **Ambulance First on Scene**
 - 2.1 If an ambulance unit witnesses an accident, the accident should be reported to their dispatch for initiation of appropriate public safety and/or emergency ALS ambulance personnel
 - 2.2 If there are no first responders on scene and the crew is not en route to a medical emergency or transporting a patient code 3, they should stop to ascertain if there are injuries. If there are injuries, they are to render appropriate care within their scope of practice
 - 2.3 If an emergency ALS ambulance has already been dispatched, the ambulance should not transport unless the delay might jeopardize the patient. The decision to transport should be made based upon the patient's condition and the estimated time of arrival (ETA) of the emergency ALS ambulance
 - 2.4 If an emergency ALS ambulance has not been dispatched but the patient's condition is such that immediate transport is not required, the crew should request County Dispatch to dispatch an emergency ALS ambulance
3. **Public Safety on Scene (police, CHP, fire) but no Ambulance Personnel**
 - 3.1 Stop to ascertain if assistance is required. The crew should notify the officer on-scene that they have not been dispatched to this call
 - 3.2 If an emergency ALS ambulance is not on the scene, medical authority rests with the most medically qualified responder. The decision to wait for an emergency ALS ambulance or to authorize transport by the ambulance is the responsibility of the most medically qualified responder, who should consider the condition of the patient, whether an ambulance has been requested through County Dispatch and the ETA of the emergency ALS ambulance
 - 3.3 If the emergency ALS ambulance arrives on scene, medical authority rests with the personnel of the emergency ALS ambulance. This individual(s) should determine if assistance from the on viewing ambulance is required
4. **Responsibility of an Ambulance Transporting from Scene**
 - 4.1 If the ambulance transports a patient(s) from an accident scene in accordance with this policy, and no other patients remain at the scene, County Dispatch should be immediately informed so that any additional responding units may be cancelled
 - 4.2 The transporting ambulance should notify the receiving hospital emergency department by radio, cellular phone, or through their dispatch of their imminent arrival (see [page 138](#))
 - 4.3 A patient care report on the patient's condition and treatment should be left at the emergency department (see [page 104](#)). A copy of the report and an unusual occurrence form explaining the circumstances of the transport shall be submitted to the county within ten (10) days