

## **PROHIBITION ON CARRYING OF WEAPONS BY EMS PERSONNEL**

### **PURPOSE**

To establish a policy prohibiting the carrying of weapons by on-duty EMS personnel. This policy does not apply to on-duty peace officers (i.e., police, sheriff, CHP, arson investigators) who may also provide emergency patient care during the course of their assigned peace officer duties.

### **AUTHORITY**

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.200, 1797.204 and 1798.200.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

### **POLICY**

On-duty EMS personnel shall not carry or possess on or about their person, or have in EMS equipment or vehicles, the following articles:

- Firearms
- Stun guns
- Concealed weapons of any sort
- Any other deadly weapon Saps, lead weighted gloves Night sticks, batons, billy clubs
- Ammunition, bullets
- Dirk or dagger
- Switchblade knife
- Tear gas, mace, pepper spray, chemical agents
- Handcuffs
- Any other items identified in Penal Code Section 12020

This policy does not include pocket knives or similar tools, instruments and/or equipment used in rescue EMS operations. It does not include animal repellent used on animals.

It is recommended that EMS provider agencies develop internal policies regarding weapons that at a minimum comply with this policy.