



EMS DIVISION SUBSIDIARY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2026 – 1:00 PM

LOMA LINDA-EOC 25541 BARTON RD, LOMA LINDA

AGENDA

The CONFIRE EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, in the Loma Linda Fire Department Emergency Operations Center, 25541 Barton Road, Loma Linda, California.

Reports and Documents relating to each agenda item are on file at CONFIRE and are available for public inspection during normal business hours.

The Public Comment portion of the agenda pertains to items NOT on the agenda and is limited to 3 minutes for each speaker. Pursuant to the Brown Act, no action may be taken by the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee at this time; however, the Committee may refer your comments/concerns to staff or request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact CONFIRE at (909) 356-2302. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable CONFIRE to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

A recess may be called at the discretion of the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee.

Liz Berry
1743 Miro Way, Rialto, CA 92376
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lberry@confire.org

CALL TO ORDER

- a. Flag Salute
- b. Roll call/Introductions

PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity provided for persons in the audience to make brief statements to the CONFIRE EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Meeting. (Limited to 3 minutes for each speaker)

INFORMATION RELATIVE TO POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Agenda items may require committee member abstentions due to conflict of interests and financial interests. CONFIRE EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Meeting member abstentions shall be stated under this item for recordation on the appropriate item.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following items are considered routine and non-controversial and will be voted upon at one time by the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee. An item may be removed by a Committee Member or member of the public for discussion and appropriate action.

- [1.](#) Approve EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Minutes of July 14, 2026.
- [2.](#) Approve EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Minutes of August 11, 2026.

CHAIR REPORT

- a. Operations Section Update
- b. Admin. Section Update
- c. Business Operations Update

NEW BUSINESS

3. Ambulance Destination - Chief Gerken - Discussion
4. Billing Data Pathway - Chief Gerken - Discussion

ROUND TABLE

CLOSED SESSION

5. Review and update existing Litigation - Government Code section 54956.9: AMR Lawsuit

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings:

Next Regular Meeting: October 13, 2026

POSTING:

This is to certify that on September 3, 2026, I posted a copy of the agenda:

- 1743 Miro Way, Rialto, CA
- on the Center's website which is www.confirer.org
- 25541 Barton Rd., Loma Linda, CA

/s/ Liz Berry

Liz Berry
Clerk of the Board



EMS DIVISION SUBSIDIARY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 – 1:00 PM

LOMA LINDA EOC – 25541 BARTON RD. LOMA LINDA

MINUTES

EMS DIVISION SUBSIDIARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Apple Valley Fire Protection District – B.C. Matthew Dowland
Chino Valley Independent Fire District – Leslie Parham
Colton Fire Department – D.C. Jon Boggs
Loma Linda Fire Department – B.C. Jeff Gillette
Montclair Fire Department – Chief Ryon Dierck - *Absent*
Ontario Fire Department – **Chair**, Chief Mike Gerken
Rancho Cucamonga Fire District – D.C. Chad Comeau
Redlands Fire Department – B.C. Nathan Bristol - *Absent*
Rialto Fire Department – D.C. Jacob Huber
San Bernardino County Fire District – D.C. Mike O'bier
Victorville Fire Department – EMS Manager David Vega
City of Yucaipa – B.C. Mark Walsh

CALL TO ORDER

- a. Flag Salute
- b. Roll call/Introductions

PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity provided for persons in the audience to make brief statements to the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee. (Limited to 3 minutes for each speaker)

There were no requests to speak.

INFORMATION RELATIVE TO POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Agenda items may require committee member abstentions due to conflict of interests and financial interests. EMS Division Subsidiary Committee member abstentions shall be stated under this item for recordation on the appropriate item.

No conflicts were announced.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following items are considered routine and non-controversial and will be voted upon at one time by the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee. An item may be removed by a Committee Member or member of the public for discussion and appropriate action.

1. Approve EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Minutes of June 9, 2026.

Motion to accept Consent item.

Motion by: B.C. Matthew Dowland

Second by: D.C. Chad Comeau

Yes –10

No – 0

Abstain –0

Absent – 2 Montclair & Ontario

Motion Passed

OLD BUSINESS

2. Whole Blood Pilot Program – Chief Mike Gerken – **DISCUSSION ITEM**

A whole blood pilot program was originally discussed at the February 11, 2025, meeting. CONFIRE Interim Deputy Executive Director, Chief Joe Barna, addressed the topic noting that all agencies would like to provide blood, but not all can. Certain agencies would not be able to overcome the obstacles that carrying whole blood entails. At the February 11, 2025, meeting a subgroup was established consisting of Carly Cripe, Pam Martinez, Josh Stapleton, and Art Andres. Interim Deputy Executive Director Barna asked the subgroup to resume talks on the subject and bring back a workable recommendation to the August 11th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

3. AB660 Data Sharing – Interim Deputy Executive Director, Chief Joe Barna – **DISCUSSION ITEM**

Interim Deputy Executive Director Joe Barna updated the EMS Subcommittee regarding the California Data Exchange Framework Data Sharing Agreement requirement, actions already taken by CONFIRE, and the anticipated EMSA/HCAI pathway for EMS data exchange.

After receiving information from ICEMA and reviewing the issue with legal counsel, CONFIRE moved forward with execution of the HCAI Data Sharing Agreement and notified the County Fire/EMS group of the potential actions their agencies may need to take.

No formal action is requested, this report out is intended to keep the EMS Subcommittee informed of the requirement, the actions already taken by CONFIRE, and the State's ongoing work to establish an EMSA intermediary pathway for EMS data exchange.

Staff will continue to monitor guidance from ICEMA, EMSA, and HCAI and will provide updates as implementation progresses.

Report was received and filed. No action required.

4. Public Agency PM Student Internships – Captain Josh Stapleton (EMS Implementation Team) – **DISCUSSION ITEM**

Approximately 60 local students from Crafton Hills, Victor Valley, and Mt. SAC will be out in the fall seeking internship. Captain Stapleton believes that CONFIRE can step up and provide the internship opportunities needed. Due to the ambulance deployment, there would be a brief pause 3-5 days before and 3-5 days after the Oct. 1st deployment date. CONFIRE will be sensitive to their requirements and do our best not to disrupt their internship time.

Informational discussion only, no formal action required.

5. Mutual Aid RFQ Process – Interim Deputy Executive Director, Chief Joe Barna – **ACTION ITEM**

CONFIRE has a need to preserve interfacility transport (IFT) and critical care transport (CCT) system resiliency while protecting the 911 system, CONFIRE's County ambulance service obligations, hospital relationships, and EMS system performance. Staff and legal counsel developed the attached policy to establish a formal process for identifying and approving private ambulance providers that may be eligible to provide IFT/CCT mutual aid support when appropriate.

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the policy or the development of the RFQ. Any future fiscal impact would depend on the terms of individual mutual aid agreements and would return through CONFIRE's approval process before activation.

Motion to recommend that the CONFIRE Administrative Committee adopt the IFT/CCT Mutual Aid Partner Policy as presented and authorize staff to develop the annual Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process for private ambulance providers seeking consideration as IFT/CCT mutual aid partners.

Motion by: Chief Mike Gerken

Second by: B.C. Matthew Dowland

Yes –10

No –0

Abstain –0

Absent – 2, Montclair & Redlands

Motion Passed

ROUND TABLE

Chief Mike O'bier introduced Captain Sky Rodriguez to the group. Captain Rodriguez will be temporarily assigned to San Bernardino County Fire Headquarters to assist with EMS duties and the ambulance deployment.

CLOSED SESSION

**The EMS Subsidiary Committee entered Closed Session at 1:32 p.m.*

6. Review and update existing Litigation – Government Code section 54956.9: AMR Lawsuit

**The EMS Subsidiary Committee came out of Closed Session at 1:41 p.m.*

**No reportable outcome from Closed Session.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Next Meeting: August 11, 2026.

/s/ Liz Berry
Liz Berry
Clerk of the Board



EMS DIVISION SUBSIDIARY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 – 1:00 PM

LOMA LINDA EOC – 25541 BARTON RD. LOMA LINDA

MINUTES

EMS DIVISION SUBSIDIARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Apple Valley Fire Protection District – B.C. Matthew Dowland
 Chino Valley Independent Fire District – Leslie Parham - *Absent*
 Colton Fire Department – B.C. David Santos
 Loma Linda Fire Department – B.C. Mike Atchison
 Montclair Fire Department – Chief Ryon Dierck - *Absent*
 Ontario Fire Department – **Chair**, Chief Mike Wedell
 Rancho Cucamonga Fire District – **Vice Chair**, Chief Augie Barreda
 Redlands Fire Department – B.C. Nathan Bristol - *Absent*
 Rialto Fire Department – D.C. Ryan Cathey - *Absent*
 San Bernardino County Fire District – D.C. Mike O'bier
 Victorville Fire Department – EMS Manager David Vega - *Absent*
 City of Yucaipa – B.C. Mark Walsh - *Absent*

CALL TO ORDER

- a. Flag Salute
- b. Roll call/Introductions

PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity provided for persons in the audience to make brief statements to the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee. (Limited to 3 minutes for each speaker)

There were no requests to speak.

INFORMATION RELATIVE TO POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Agenda items may require committee member abstentions due to conflict of interests and financial interests. EMS Division Subsidiary Committee member abstentions shall be stated under this item for recordation on the appropriate item.

No conflicts were announced.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following items are considered routine and non-controversial and will be voted upon at one time by the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee. An item may be removed by a Committee Member or member of the public for discussion and appropriate action.

1. Approve EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Minutes of July 14, 2026.

**No action taken; we did not have a quorum. This item will be moved to the September agenda.*

CHAIR REPORT

- a. Operation Section Update

The committee discussed surge ambulance units in depth. The final count of surge units both Priority units and local agency units. Talk on modification to thresholds on when to activate a unit. The group was advised that notification will be given at level 2 within each region. If a level one occurs in a region they would be asked to stand up. The implementation team will continue to develop and refine the final policy.

Discussion ensued on unit numbering and staffing. Upstaffing in the field, CONFIRE dispatch, and Priority Ambulance will start on 9/30. The implementation team is currently working thru all options, including overlapping shifts, to create resiliency and a smooth transition.

NEW BUSINESS

2. ICEMA Policy 4100 Response Standards – Dean Smith – **RECEIVE AND FILE**

- *On implementation of the Ground Ambulance Service Contract on October 1, 2026, CONFIRE will incorporate ICEMA Policy 4100 and its determinant-level assignments into the ambulance deployment and dispatch plan.*
- *Emergency Medical Dispatch will determine two separate elements: Clinical resource level and response mode. Unit type establishes clinical capability; Code 2 or Code 3 establishes the response method and contract time standard.*
- *ALS will no longer automatically mean Code 3. Under the contract, Code 3 ambulance responses are ALS; Code 2 responses may use ALS or BLS and operate without lights and siren.*
- *Both Code 2 and Code 3 require immediate dispatch. The longer Code 2 standard is a performance benchmark, not permission to hold or delay the call.*
- *This replaces the decades-long all-Code-3 model and implements the RFP commitment to send the right resource to the right patient at the right time.*

The RFP called for a modernized system using Medical Priority Dispatch and appropriate ALS or BLS response. The agreement authorizes BLS use under ICEMA Emergency Medical Dispatch requirements, establishes separate Code 2 and Code 3 standards, and requires BLS responses to conform to Policy 4100. Policy 4100 assigns responses by determinant and directs first-response and ambulance resources to follow Emergency Medical Dispatch instructions to upgrade, cancel, or reduce response mode.

This is a material operating-model change. It ends the assumption that an ALS designation requires Code 3, preserves immediate dispatch and ALS response for higher-acuity calls, and

allows lower-acuity calls to receive the appropriate response without unnecessary Code 3 travel.

There is no separate fiscal impact associated with receiving and filing this report.

Staff recommends receiving and filing this report. No formal action is requested.

ROUND TABLE

Joe Barna discussed a draft Rate Setting Policy that will go before the Administrative Committee at the end of the month.

A Resolution that establishes the rates for the year will be forthcoming.

Chino Valley has reassessed its public-agency ambulance involvement, changing from three front-line units to two surge units. CONFIRE has pivoted, and Priority Ambulance is taking steps to mitigate any impact.

CLOSED SESSION

**The EMS Subsidiary Committee did not enter Closed Session.*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the EMS Division Subsidiary Committee Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Next Meeting: September 8, 2026.

/s/ Liz Berry

Liz Berry
Clerk of the Board