



TRANSPORT OF ~~POLICE K9~~PUBLIC SAFETY WORKING DOGS INJURED IN LINE OF DUTY

I. AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, 1797.10, 1797.109, 1797.200, 1797.220, 1798 (a), (b).

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II. APPLICATION:

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This policy describes the guidelines for treatment and/or transport of an injured public safety working police K9 dog.

III. DEFINITIONS:

Public Safety Working Dog: A canine that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a state or local law enforcement agency, a correctional agency, a fire department, a special fire district, or the State fire Marshal for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, flammable materials, or missing persons (including search and rescue); the enforcement of laws; the investigation of fires; or the apprehension of offenders. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Police K9s
- Search and rescue dog
- Detection dogs such as, but not limited to, accelerant, bomb, cadaver, arson
- Peer support dog
- Tracking / Trailing dog
- Other dogs in the service of a public agency for public safety

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IV. GUIDELINES:

A. General Policy

1. It is the policy in the Orange County EMS system that ~~police K9~~public safety working dogs injured in the line of duty ~~can~~may be transported by an Orange County EMS licensed ambulance and / or fire department vehicle for emergency care-provided that there is no other person requiring medical attention or transport at that time by that crew.

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2. The public safety working dog's handler shall accompany and maintain control of the injured animal during transport, if feasible. If the dog's handler is unable to accompany and maintain control of the injured public safety working dog during transport, the crew should not transport the animal unless qualified individual designated by the handler is available to assume control. If no such individual is available, transport should not occur.

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3. Transport of an injured public safety working dog and any first aid provided is voluntary, not required.

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4. Transport should only occur when the handler confirms the dog is secured or under control and does not pose a safety risk to crew members.

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5. Following transport, crews shall perform vehicle and equipment decontamination consistent with their agency's standard post-transport cleaning and infection-control policies. Agencies electing to transport public safety working dogs should ensure appropriate decontamination supplies and procedures are available.

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B. Transport to a veterinary emergency center:

1. Transport destination is determined by the injured dog's ~~K9 Officer~~handler.



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2. Transport procedure for ambulance crews is described in OCEMS Policy # B-009.

3. ~~Medical supplies are appropriate to supply to the dog's handler during transport of an injured public safety working dog. These include, but are not limited to: o~~Oxygen with delivery by mask or nasal cannula, gauze dressings, and hemostatic dressings ~~are~~
~~—appropriate to supply to a K-9 police officer during transport of an injured K9.~~

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C. Documentation / Notifications

1. Transport of a ~~K9~~public safety working dog should not be recorded on an OC-MEDS ePCR

2. Following transport of a ~~K9 police~~public safety working dog, the ambulance service provider shall notify the OCEMS Medical Director by email within 24 hours.

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Approved:

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ORANGE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
BASIC LIFE SUPPORT PROCEDURES
TRANSPORT OF ~~POLICE DOGS (K9)~~ PUBLIC SAFETY WORKING DOGS
INJURED IN LINE OF DUTY

#: B-009
 Page: 1 of 1
 Orig. Date: 01/01/2019
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INDICATIONS:

- Transport of ~~police dog~~ public safety working dogs handler(s) and a ~~police dog~~ public safety working dog injured in the line of duty.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Need to ~~treat and / or~~ transport human patient(s) at the same scene ~~in~~ by the same ambulance crew / unit.

EQUIPMENT:

- ~~None required.~~
- ~~(may~~ May supply ~~K-9 police officer~~ public safety animal handler with access to oxygen, ~~and~~ oxygen delivery equipment, gauze bandage, ~~and~~ hemostatic dressings, ~~and other medical equipment as needed.~~
- ~~Agencies may elect to carry equipment specific to care of injured dogs.~~

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PROCEDURE:

- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for potential blood exposure.
- Allow ~~police dog~~ public safety working dog handler (~~K-9 Officer~~) to place dog onto gurney.
- Allow ~~police dog~~ handler to stabilize dog to gurney (may use straps available).
- Assist ~~police dog~~ handler with set-up of oxygen and provide sterile dressings, including hemostatic dressings if available. For oxygen delivery, may provide ~~officer~~ handler with a human non-rebreather mask, nasal cannula, ~~or~~ canine mask (if available).
- EMTs are not to ride in patient cabin during transport; ~~K-9 officer~~ handler(s) will attend to dog.
- Transport to veterinary location as directed by ~~police dog~~ handler; may transport with lights and siren if directed to do so by ~~K-9 officer~~ handler.
- After off-loading dog, clean patient cabin area ~~consistent with their agency's standard post-transport cleaning and infection-control policies. using usual cleaning procedures.~~

DOCUMENTATION:

- Notify ~~ambulance~~ agency dispatch ~~office~~ center of transport, including date, time, and ~~public safety working dog's agency name~~ police department. An OCEMS ePCR should not be generated.

NOTES:

- An injured ~~police dog~~ public safety working dog may manifest unpredictable behaviors due to stress. Follow directions of ~~K-9 officer~~ handler and avoid direct contact with dog. Do not get between ~~the handler and the dog~~ K-9 officer and dog.

Approved:

Review Date: 04/2026
 Initial Release Date: 11/1/2018
 Final Date for Implementation Date: 04/01/2027 01/01/2019
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