



---

## **WEAPONS POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

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

### **AUTHORITY**

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 4, Article 1, §§ 1797.200, 1797.204

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 7, § 1798.200

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

### **POLICY**

- I. On-duty EMS personnel shall NOT carry or possess on or about their person, or have in EMS equipment or vehicles, the following articles:
  - A. Firearms
  - B. Stun guns
  - C. Concealed weapons of any sort
  - D. Any other deadly weapon, saps, lead weighted gloves, night sticks, batons, billy clubs, ammunition, bullets.
  - E. Dirk or dagger
  - F. Switchblade knife
  - G. Tear gas, mace, pepper spray, chemical agents
  - H. Handcuffs
  - I. Any other items identified in California Penal Code, Part 6, Title 1, Division 2, § 16590
- II. 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.
- III. It is recommended that EMS Provider Agencies develop internal policies regarding weapons that at a minimum comply with this policy.