

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

A Division of the Fresno County Department of Public Health

Manual	Emergency Medical Services Administrative Policies and Procedures	Policy Number 201 Page 1 of 6
Subject	Authorization of Ambulance Provider Agencies in Kings County	
References	California Vehicle Code; Kings County Ambulance Ordinance and Resolutions; Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations; and Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations	Effective 11/01/85

I. POLICY

Ambulance Provider Agencies operating within Kings County will be authorized by the EMS Agency and Kings County for their appropriate level of service in accordance with established policy and procedures.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Ambulance Dispatch Center - The Fresno County EMS Communications Center is the dispatch center authorized by the EMS Agency to provide ambulance dispatch services for Kings County..
- B. Ambulance Provider Agency/Provider Agency - A private or public organization, or entity, or individual utilizing any ground, water, or air vehicle specifically designed, constructed, modified, equipped, arranged, maintained, operated, used or staffed, including vehicles specifically licensed or operated pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 2416, for the purpose of transporting sick, injured, invalid, convalescent, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons and which has met all license and other requirements in applicable Federal, State, and local law and regulation (Section 51151.1 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 1100.2(a) of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations).
- C. Ambulance Service Area - A specific geographic area within the County of Kings established by the Board of Supervisor’s resolution.
- D. Ambulance Response Zone - A specific geographic area within the ambulance service area which is designated by the EMS Agency for assignment of primary and back-up ambulance resources.
- E. Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) - An exclusive operating area is an area defined by the County Emergency Medical Services Plan for which the EMS agency, upon the recommendation of the County and pursuant to Division 2.5 of the Health and Safety Code, restricts operations to one or more providers of emergency ambulance service, limited advanced life support services (EMT-II), or advanced life support services (paramedic).
- F. Exclusive Operating Area Provider (EOA Provider) – The ambulance provider contracted for the provision of emergency ambulance and advanced life support (paramedic) ambulance services for a designated exclusive operating area.

Approved By EMS Division Manager	DANIEL J. LYNCH (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	Revision 01/06/17
EMS Medical Director	JIM ANDREWS, M.D. (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	

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- G. Non-Exclusive Operating Area (Non-EOA) - A non-exclusive operating area is an area defined by the County Emergency Medical Services Plan for which the EMS agency does not restrict operations to one or more providers of emergency ambulance service or advanced life support services (paramedic) ambulance service.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Exclusive Operating Area

Kings County Exclusive Operating Area – The Kings County Exclusive operating area includes the entire County of Kings with the exception of the Riverdale Service Area (Ambulance Zone 01), Kingsburg Service Area (Ambulance Zone 03), and the Lemoore Naval Air Station (Ambulance Zone 04). The geographic area of the exclusive operating area is described in Exhibit A-1 and A-2 of this policy.

B. Non-Exclusive Operating Areas

The following non-exclusive areas are the only geographic areas in Kings County not initially included as part of the Kings County EOA (but such areas may be included in the EOA, as provided herein):

- Riverdale Service Area – Ambulance Zone 01;
- Kingsburg Service Area – Ambulance Zone 03;
- Lemoore Naval Air Station – Ambulance Zone 04;

The County and the EMS Agency shall have the sole option, in their discretion, to incorporate at any time the geographic areas initially designated as non-exclusive areas into the Kings County EOA, thereby requiring the Kings County EOA Provider to be responsible for providing emergency ambulance services and advanced life support (paramedic) ambulance services to these areas.

C. First Responder Services

The County and EMS Agency reserve the right to allow providers, other than EOA Provider, to operate enhanced first responder services for 911 responses, including, but not limited to, advanced life support (paramedic), advanced EMT, or BLS-defibrillation first responder services, within Kings County.

D. Air Ambulance / Air Rescue Services

The County and EMS Agency reserve the right to allow providers, other than EOA Provider, to operate advanced life support air ambulance and/or air rescue services within Kings County. This includes flights and air transportation within Kings County from air providers responding from outside Kings County. Unless the air ambulance/air rescue provider is based within Kings County, no agreement or licensure is required. Dispatch for helicopter air ambulance/air rescue services shall be provided consistent with EMS Agency Policies and Procedures.

E. Non-Emergency Transports

The County or EMS Agency do not restrict the provision of non-emergency transportation services in the EOA that may be provided by entities other than an emergency ambulance service and which do not require vehicles equipped with emergency lights and siren pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 2416, including, but not limited to, services provided by *wheel chair* or *litter van* services. However, providers using ambulance type vehicles for non-emergency medical transportation must remove and/or cover their light-bar and emergency lights if operating within Kings County.

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F. Ambulance Dispatch Center – The designated county-wide and centralized ambulance dispatch center for Kings County is the Fresno County EMS Communications Center. All ambulances in Kings County shall receive the primary dispatch of medical incidents from the Fresno County EMS Communications Center.

G. Limited Exceptions to the Ambulance Service Areas (including EOA)

Services provided to Ambulance Service Areas (including EOAs) shall encompass the operation of all ground emergency ambulance services and advanced life support (paramedic) ground ambulance services with the following exceptions:

1. Disaster Assistance - Ambulances providing assistance at the County's request during disaster incidents may operate within the EOA.
2. Instant Aid/Mutual Aid - The provision of ambulance services pursuant to and requested in accordance with EMS Agency Policies and Procedures and/or under formal instant aid and mutual aid agreements between the ambulance provider and a third party that has been reviewed and approved by the EMS Agency, shall be an exception to the service area.
3. Contracted Specialty Care Units - Ambulance services providing specialty interfacility care and transportation (e.g., neonatal/pediatric transport or critical care transport) utilizing a registered nurse and/or physician staffing, may utilize ambulance vehicles equipped with red emergency warning light and siren only for interfacility transports. Such vehicles and personnel may not be utilized for prehospital responses and such units may not be staffed by paramedics in the place of registered nurses and/or physicians. This includes neonatal and pediatric transport services under contract to Children's Hospital Central California.
4. Veteran's Administration (VA) Contract Ambulance Services - Ambulance services operating pursuant to a federal contract for direct purchase of ambulance services for the Veteran's Administration shall be exempt from the EOA solely for the purpose of servicing that contract.
5. Federally Operated Ambulances - Ambulance services, provided either by an agency of the federal government or a person or entity pursuant to a contract with such agency, shall be exempt from the EOA solely for the purpose of services to that federal facility/agency. Such exception shall not extend to ambulance services provided to the general public except when such members of the public are at such federal facility.
6. State Operated and Contracted Ambulances - Ambulance services, provided either by an agency of the state government or a person or entity pursuant to a contract with such agency, shall be an exception from the ambulance service area solely for the purpose of services to that state facility/agency. Such exception shall not extend to ambulance services provided to the general public except when such members of the public are at such state facility.

Note: For the purposes of this policy and the exclusive operating areas, Medicare and Medicaid (Medi-Cal) authorizations or other arrangements for reimbursement for services shall be considered a reimbursement arrangement - not a federal or state contract for direct purchase of ambulance services.

H. Ambulance Service Areas

Ambulance service area boundaries, as established by the County and Local EMS Agency Policies and Procedures, shall be used in determining the dispatching of ambulances within Kings County. These ambulance service area boundaries include the exclusive operating area and non-exclusive operating areas

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within Kings County (see Attachment A). Ambulance response zones within these ambulance service areas have been designated by the EMS Agency through EMS Policy which defines the geographic areas for data collection and identification of the primary ambulance unit and any applicable back-up ambulance units.

I. Approved Ambulance Provider Agencies

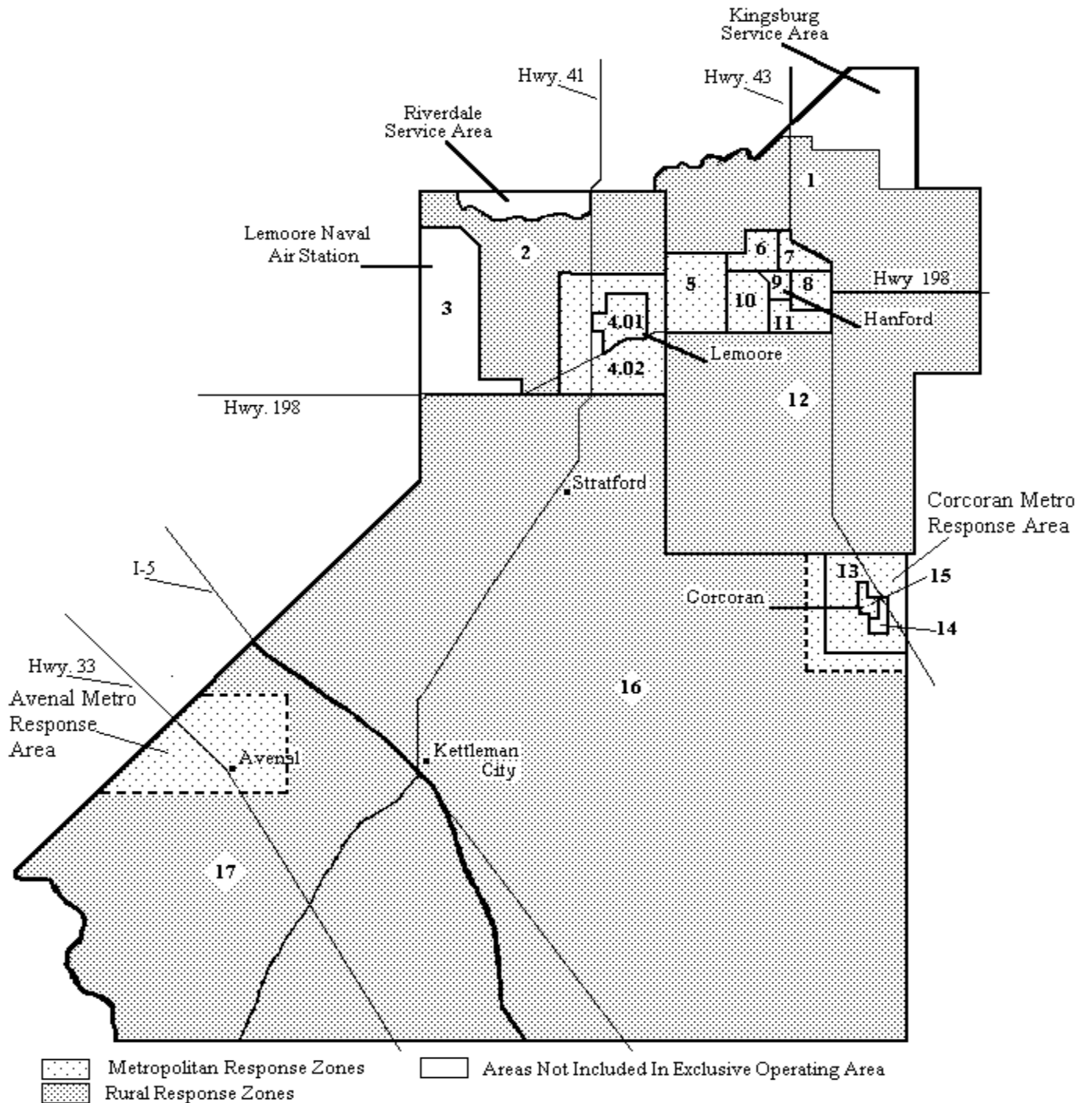
1. Kings County EOA - The EMS Agency, in conjunction with Kings County has designated a single provider agency -- American Ambulance -- for the provision of emergency ambulance services and advanced life support (paramedic) ground ambulance services within the Kings County exclusive operating area designated by the EMS Agency pursuant to the EMS Plan. Therefore, no other ground ambulance provider agencies will be designated for services which are within the geographic area and scope of the exclusive operating area (See Attachment A).
2. Non-Exclusive Ambulance Providers - The EMS Agency, in conjunction with Kings County has designated the following non-exclusive providers for the provision of emergency ground ambulance services within Kings County:

<u>Ambulance Zone</u>	<u>Zone Description</u>	<u>Provider</u>
Zone 01	Riverdale Service Area	American Ambulance - Fresno
Zone 03	Kingsburg Service Area	Kingsburg Fire Dept
Zone 04	Lemoore Naval Air Station	Lemoore Naval Air Station

3. Anyone desiring to provide ground or air ambulance service within a particular service area shall comply with all relevant sections of the Kings County Ambulance Ordinance and Resolutions and obtain an ambulance provider agreement with the local EMS Agency (unless the air ambulance/air rescue provider is responding from outside of Kings County, in which case the provider is exempt from the agreement requirement in accordance with Section III.D.). As applicable, such services would be for non-exclusive operating areas within the County of Kings or for services which are outside the scope of the exclusive operating area.
4. Ambulance operations within Kings County shall be conducted in strict accordance with the, all applicable Federal, State, and local codes and regulations including the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code, Title 13 and Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, the California Vehicle Code, local municipal and county codes and regulations, including Kings County Ambulance Provider Agreements and local EMS Agency policies and procedures.
5. The local EMS Agency shall be notified in writing no less then sixty (60) days prior to an ambulance provider agency changing their level of service (i.e., ALS to BLS), or of their intent to discontinue providing ambulance service within a service area(s).

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Exhibit A-1
Ambulance Services Areas including the Exclusive Operating Area



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Exhibit A-2

- I. Exclusive Operating Area - The exclusive operating area includes the following census tracts.
 - A. Census Tract #1 - Excluding the area identified as the Kingsburg Service Area as identified below.
 - B. Census Tract #2 - Excluding the area identified as the Riverdale Service Area as identified below.
 - C. Census Tracts #4.01 - 17

- II. Areas not included in Exclusive Operating Area
 - A. Kingsburg Ambulance Service Area - The following area of Census Tract 1 is excluded from the Exclusive Operating Area:

Beginning at the point where Excelsior Avenue intersects 4th Avenue, Thence north along 4th Avenue (Kings County/Tulare County line) to the intersection of 4th Avenue and Boston Avenue; Thence west along Boston Avenue to the intersection of Boston Avenue and the Kings County/Fresno County/Tulare County line; Thence south and west along the Kings County/Fresno County line to Cairo Avenue; Thence east along Cairo Avenue to the intersection of Cairo Avenue and 9th Avenue; Thence south along 9th Avenue to the intersection of 9th Avenue and Denver Avenue; Thence east on Denver Avenue to the intersection of Denver Avenue and 6th Avenue; Thence south along 6th Avenue to the intersection of 6th Avenue and Excelsior Avenue; Thence east along Excelsior Avenue to the point of origin.

 - B. Riverdale Ambulance Service Area - The following area of Census Tract 2 is excluded from the Exclusive Operating Area:

Beginning at the point where State Highway 41 intersects with the Kings County/Fresno County line; Thence west along the Kings County/Fresno County line to the intersection of the Kings County/Fresno County line and the Fresno Slough; Thence south and south-easterly along the Fresno Slough to the intersection of the Fresno Slough and the North Fork of the Kings River; Thence easterly along the North Fork of the Kings River to the intersection of the North Fork of the Kings River and State Highway 41; Thence north along State Highway 41 to the point of origin.

 - C. Lemoore Naval Air Station Ambulance Service Area - Census Tract 3, the Lemoore Naval Air Station, is excluded from the Exclusive Operating Area. Census Tract 3 is defined by the following boundaries :

Beginning at the point where the Kings County/Fresno County line and the Elgin Avenue alignment intersect; Thence south along the Kings County/Fresno County line to the intersection of the Kings County/Fresno County line and Jackson Avenue (State Highway 198); Thence east along Jackson Avenue (State Highway 198) to the intersection of Jackson Avenue (State Highway 198) and the 23rd Avenue alignment; Thence north along the 23rd Avenue alignment to the intersection of the 23rd Avenue alignment and the Idaho Avenue alignment; Thence west along the Idaho Avenue alignment to the intersection of the Idaho Avenue alignment and the 25th Avenue alignment; Thence north along the 25th Avenue alignment to the intersection of 25th Avenue (Grangeville Boulevard Bypass) and the Fargo Avenue alignment; Thence north-west along 25th Avenue (Grangeville Boulevard Bypass) to the intersection of 25th Avenue (Grangeville Boulevard Bypass) and Elgin Avenue; Thence west along the Elgin Avenue alignment to the point of origin.