

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 411
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References		Effective: 11/01/88

I. POLICY

Whenever there is reason to believe that the Fresno metro ambulance contractor's STAR rescue team would be needed and/or be of assistance, the rescue team shall be dispatched as co-responders. The following procedures shall be followed to assure that the STAR rescue team is appropriately utilized.

II. PROCEDURE

A. The STAR rescue team should be dispatched to the following EMS incidents:

1. Specific request from calling party (other agencies, general public if specifically requested, etc.).
2. When requested by the appropriate County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team.
3. Water rescues needing technical expertise, including but not limited to:
 - a. car in canal/river with strong currents
 - b. swift water rescue
 - c. car completely under water in pond/lake
 - d. falls into water wells/abandoned shafts
4. Vehicle over-the-side (cliff).
5. Person in need of high angle rescue (e.g., cliff, building, tree, over-the-side)
6. Industrial/Construction site rescues with limited access.
7. Injured persons in remote areas inaccessible to the routine First Responders.
8. Request for a stand-by at an incident involving any SWAT Team (Specialized Weapons and Tactical Team) within Fresno County

Approved By EMS Division Manager	DANIEL J. LYNCH (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	Revision
EMS Medical Director	JIM ANDREWS, M.D. (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	11/04/2016

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- B. “Co-response” is interpreted as dispatching a rescue unit as well as the closest appropriate initial response units. The co-response should occur simultaneously with or immediately following the initial response. If the rescue unit is the closest ambulance, EMS dispatch supervisor will determine, based on the available information, if an additional ground ambulance response is needed.

Initial response units are not required if the request is from the appropriate County Sheriff’s Office for Swat operations or search and rescue activities.

- C. The STAR rescue team is committed to the rescue until information becomes available that indicates they would not be needed on scene.

- D. Notifications:

Whenever the STAR rescue team is responding to a technical rescue, the ambulance dispatch center shall notify the following:

1. Appropriate County Sheriff's Department on-duty Watch Commander. Request notification of the Search and Rescue supervisor.
2. Fire Agency (where rescue is located)
3. Law Enforcement Agency (where rescue is located)
4. Rescue Team Supervisor
5. Metro Provider Supervisor