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Katherine Douglas *Public Comment - Montecito Fire Protection Dist.*

From: Joyce Reed <jreed@montecitofire.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 10:52 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: FW: Ambulance Contract
Attachments: Ambulance Contract Board Letter.pdf

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Clerk of the Board,

Please see the attached letter on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Montecito Fire Protection District.

Kind regards,



Joyce Reed
Administrative Assistant
595 San Ysidro Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108
STATION (805) 969-7762
montecitofire.com

From: Joyce Reed
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2024 2:07 PM
To: Steve.Lavagino@countyofsb.org
Subject: Ambulance Contract

Mr. Lavagnino,

Please see the attached letter on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Montecito Fire Protection District.

Kind regards,



Joyce Reed
Administrative Assistant
595 San Ysidro Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108
STATION (805) 969-7762
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MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

An Independent Fire District

June 21, 2024

Steve Lavagnino, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Fourth Floor, Room 407
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dear Chair, Lavagnino,

The Montecito Fire Protection District Board and our community has been supportive of the Santa Barbara County Operational Area Fire Chiefs as they are committed to developing a robust solution to the failing private ambulance service delivery model. In recent meetings with Chief Neels, we have come to understand that the Board of Supervisors has had two closed session meetings pertaining to the ambulance contract. The outcome of your decision not only impacts the service levels in the county areas, but also directly impacts Montecito. Our community came out in force at the June 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting when the ambulance permit discussion was on the agenda, and their concern is still a top priority to our department. We understand that the Board will decide how the issuance of an ambulance permit occurs. We want you to endorse a long-term system enhancement that would include providing additional ambulances.

As a Board, we have been committed to offering high level Emergency Medical Services to our community. In fact, we started providing paramedic services in 1993. In addition, we have an ambulance that we added to our fleet in the rare instances that there may be a need for us to help in a major emergency. We are receiving reports that our ambulance is being requested and responding out of our district to provide coverage in other areas of the county regularly. Hearing of an instance that we were requested to respond to Goleta for an individual in cardiac arrest highlights the critical need for change. There are individual tragedies occurring around the county frequently and agreeing that "Level 0" is part of a delivery model is completely unacceptable.

Our Board and community are dependent on the Board of Supervisors to make a long-lasting change in providing the appropriate levels of ambulance transport and availability. It is a critical need that has to be met.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter van Duinwyk".

Peter van Duinwyk
President