



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Fire Department
Department No.: 031
For Agenda Of: 1/7/2025
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden 805-681-5500 **MH**
Director
Contact Info: Garrett Huff, Deputy Chief of Emergency Services 805-681-5501
SUBJECT: Paramedic / Emergency Medical Technician Student Education Agreement
between the Santa Barbara County Fire Department and Ventura County
Community College District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Paramedic/Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Student Education Agreement (Attachment A), which will allow the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (Fire Department) to provide clinical paramedic student learning experiences in cooperation with Ventura County Community College District with a period of performance from January 7, 2025 to June 30, 2029; and
- b) Determine that these activities are not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This agreement will allow Fire Department Paramedic Preceptors/Field Training Officers to assist with the Internship period of Paramedic and/or EMT Prehospital certification and licensure training requirements. The Internship period allows for student observation and hands-on experience in the presence of a Paramedic Preceptor/Field Training Officer. There is no monetary obligation on either

party associated with this Agreement. The term of the agreement is from the date of final signature through June 30, 2029, with no extensions.

Background:

The Fire Department and the Ventura County Community College District wish to establish a relationship to reserve spots in their paramedic training program for Santa Barbara County Fire personnel. In return, the Fire Department will provide field internship opportunities to Paramedic and EMT students. This program will help the Fire Department and the region bolster its paramedic program with students from the local workforce.

Initial paramedic training is broken into three phases: didactic, clinical, and field internship. The first phase is the didactic part of paramedic training, which involves classroom-based instruction and theoretical learning. Trainees are taught various medical topics, including anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, medical terminology, patient assessment, emergency medical procedures, and ethical and legal considerations. Didactic training provides the foundational knowledge and understanding necessary for paramedics to make informed decisions and provide high-quality care in emergency situations.

The second phase is the clinical part of paramedic training, which involves hands-on experience in real hospital settings. It allows paramedic trainees to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical setting under the supervision of experienced healthcare professionals. This includes learning to assess and treat patients, administer medications, perform various medical procedures, and effectively communicate with patients and other healthcare professionals.

The field internship is the final part of the training, where the student puts all the knowledge and skills learned satisfactorily in the presence of a Paramedic Preceptor/Field Training Officer. This is where aspiring paramedics work in real-life healthcare settings. It is a crucial part of their training as it allows them to develop their decision-making abilities and adaptability in a fast-paced and unpredictable environment.

This agreement is mutually beneficial as it allows Ventura County Community College District students to acquire clinical experience during the learning process and allows the Fire Department to contribute to the education of future local paramedics and EMTs.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Fiscal Analysis:

There will be no facilities impacts. Paramedic interns will operate out of existing facilities that have the capacity to function with an additional paramedic.

There are negligible fiscal impacts anticipated for this internship program. The costs related to this program are expected to be minimal (medical gloves, face masks, eye protection and medical gowns utilized while on medical calls) and will vary from year to year based upon the number of paramedic interns participating in the program. The Fire Department's operational budget will fund these minimal costs. As such, no additional funding resources are needed to support the program.

Special Instructions:

Upon execution, please return a copy of the Minute Order and Agreement to Garrett Huff, Deputy Fire Chief, Emergency Services, Fire Department: ghuff@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

- A. Paramedic/Emergency Medical Technician Student Education Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Ventura County Community College District

Authored by:

Garrett Huff, Deputy Chief, Emergency Services