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FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

In association with the California Fire Chiefs Association



May 20, 2019

Steve Lavagnino
Chair, Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA, 93101

Re: EMS System Review and Authorization to Negotiate a Fourth Amendment with American Medical Response West

Chair Lavagnino and Board of Supervisors,

The Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs generally agree with the analysis performed by Fitch and Associates. In particular, we agree with the report that there are significant opportunities to improve the EMS delivery system in Santa Barbara County.

As a point of clarification, the Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs Association has a different interpretation of California Health and Safety Codes § 1797.206 and 1797.218. We do not believe that written agreements with the LEMSA that may be considered transfers of administrative authority are required by State Law.

We look forward to continuing our participation with other stakeholders in the development of an improved EMS system and addressing the identified gaps in Santa Barbara County.

Please contact us if you need further clarification or have any questions.

Best Regards,

Eric Nickel
Fire Chief, City of Santa Barbara
EMS Working Group Chair
Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs Association

Leonard Champion
Fire Chief, City of Santa Maria
President
Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs Association

C: Barney Melekian, Assistant County Executive Officer
Nicholas Clay, Emergency Medical Services Agency Director
Dr. Angelo Salvucci, Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency
Jason Stilwell, President, Santa Barbara County Administrators and Managers Association