

Public Comment



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FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

In association with the California Fire Chiefs Association



September 27, 2019

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

Re: EMS System Review Final Report and Ambulance Agreement Recommendation


Chair Lavagnino and Board Members,


The Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs respectfully request that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors direct the Public Health Department, acting as the local Emergency Medical Services Agency, to begin the competitive process to select a contractor to provide emergency ambulance services for Santa Barbara County and to redefine exclusive operating areas as may be necessary.

We strongly believe that a competitive process will drive innovation, provide an opportunity to develop new programs while enhancing existing programs, and improve out-of-hospital medical care in our communities. Additionally, engaging in the competitive process will ensure fiscal transparency so that our community members can enjoy the highest possible level of service at the most reasonable cost. We base our recommendation on several years of EMS operations experience. Moreover, we are confident that the revenue in the Fitch Report is significantly underreported.

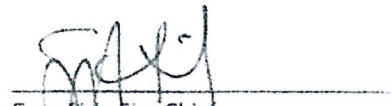
Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

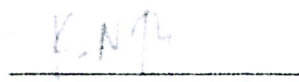
Respectfully,

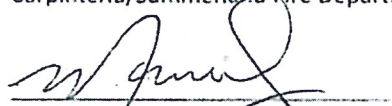

Leonard Champion, President
Fire Chief, Santa Maria Fire Department


Eric Nickel, Fire Chief
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Gerald Kuras, Fire Chief
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Greg Fish, Fire Chief
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