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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

DATE: March 8, 2018

To: Contra Costa County Pre-hospital First Responders and EMS Providers

FROM: Pat Frost, EMS Director 
Dr. David Goldstein, EMS Medical Director

SUBJECT: Policy 1008 – Managing Assaultive Behavior/Patient Restraint (18-OPS-001)

The Contra Costa EMS Agency (LEMSA) has received a number of concerns that the direction contained in Section III(6) has resulted in unintended confusion on scene between EMS personnel and Law Enforcement. Effective immediately, the LEMSA has eliminated Section III(6) under Responsibility of Law Enforcement.

LEMSA policies are intended to provide appropriate guidance to assure that both patients and providers are not harmed. Prehospital personnel should use Policy 1008 guidance to stay safe and partner with law enforcement for the benefit of the patient.

Prehospital personnel and law enforcement should mutually agree on the need for law enforcement assistance during transport of patients on a psychiatric detention. Patients that refuse transport and are medical stable should be accompanied by law enforcement. In the event law enforcement must leave the scene and the patient does not meet criteria for the use of medical restraint and then refuses transport or leaves the scene, EMS personnel should request law enforcement to return.

Prehospital efforts and patient care should be focused on supporting safe patient care.

The updated Policy 1008 can be found on the XCCEMS app and [here](#).

