SECTION I: AMBULANCE ORDINANCE. Division 48 "Ambulances" of the County Ordinance Code is repealed, amended, and re-enacted to read:

Division 48

AMBULANCES

Chapters:
48-2 General Provisions
48-4 Definitions
48-6 Permits
48-8 Vehicle Compliance
48-10 Fees
48-12 Personnel Standards
48-14 Permit Suspension or Revocation
48-16 Emergency Response
48-18 Miscellaneous Provisions
48-20 Enforcement

Chapter 48-2

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sections:
48-2.002 Title
48-2.004 Purpose
48-2.006 Exemptions.

48-2.002 Title. This division shall be known as the "Ambulance Ordinance of Contra Costa County." (Ord. 83-28 $1 (part), Ord. 70-77)

48-2.004 Purpose. The purposes of this division are to:

(1) Enact formal policies and regulations for licensing and regulating the operation of ambulances;

(2) Protect the public from unsafe and unsanitary operation of ambulances;

(3) Allow for adequate emergency ambulance services and non-emergency ambulance services in all areas of the county; and

(4) Allow for the orderly and lawful operation of a local emergency medical services system pursuant to the provisions of Health and Safety Code sections 1797 et seq. (Ord. 83-28 $1 (part), 70-77.)

48-2.006 Exemptions.

(a) This division shall not apply:
(2) To vehicles operated as ambulances and to persons engaged in the ambulance service where ambulance services are rendered exclusively to patients who become in need of ambulance service while on or in the place of business of the person and where no charge is made for the ambulance services rendered, provided however, that if the vehicle is going to travel Code 3 or its equivalent, the appropriate county communications center shall be so notified of this fact.

(b) This division shall not prevent any peace officer, firefighter, or physician licensed to practice medicine in this state, from arranging for the transportation of an individual in need of emergency medical care when no ambulance with an appropriate ambulance service permit is available and such transportation is required immediately for the preservation of life or to avoid substantial impairment of the person to be transported.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

Chapter 48-4
DEFINITIONS

Sections:
48-4.002 Generally.
48-4.004 Ambulance.
48-4.006 Ambulance service.
48-4.008 Attendent.
48-4.010 Driver.
48-4.012 Emergency Response Areas.
48-4.014 Emergency Response Area List.
48-4.016 Health officer.
48-4.018 Medical director.
48-4.022 Permit officer.
48-4.023 Permit.
48-4.024 Sheriff.

48-4.002 Generally. Unless otherwise specifically provided, or required by the context, the following terms have the meanings set forth in this chapter.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.004 Ambulance. "Ambulance" means any privately owned vehicle specifically constructed, modified, equipped, or arranged and operated for the transportation of individuals in need of medical care and which operates or may operate Code 3 or its equivalent. The meaning includes, but is not limited to, privately owned ambulances and paramedic units.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)
as driver, is responsible for the care of ambulance patients as a driver, who has met all license and other requirements in applicable state laws and regulations. The term includes EMT I, EMT II, and EMT-P, as those terms are used in Health and Safety Code sections 1797 et seq.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.010 Driver. "Driver" means an individual who drives an ambulance and who has met all license and other requirements in applicable state laws and regulations.

(Ord. 83-28 $1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.011 Limited Advanced Life Support and Advanced Life Support. "Limited Advanced Life Support" and "Advanced Life Support" have the same meanings as when used in Health and Safety Code sections 1797 et seq.

(Ord. 83-28 $1 (part).)

48-4.012 Emergency Response Areas. "Emergency response areas" means the areas shown on the map entitled "Emergency Response Areas of Contra Costa County" on file in the office of the sheriff and the clerk of the board, and as it may be changed from time to time by the permit officer pursuant to section 48-16.004.

(Ord. 83-28 $1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.014 Emergency Response Area List. "Emergency Response Area List(s)" means that list of permittee(s) for each emergency response area who have entered into an ambulance service agreement with the county and who will be contacted by the county communications center in accordance with regulations adopted by the permit officer to respond to calls for emergency ambulance services which it receives. Copies of the emergency response area list(s) shall be kept on file in the offices of the sheriff and the clerk of the board.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.016 Health officer. "Health officer" means the County Health Officer, or other official designated by the Board to perform the Health Officer's functions under this division.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.018 Medical Director. "Medical Director" means the Health Officer, or other person designated pursuant to section 48-4.016 and Health and Safety Code section 1797.202.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-4.022 Permit officer. "Permit officer" means the Health Officer.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 77-61, 70-77.)

48-4.023 Permit. "Permit" means:

(1) "Non-emergency Ambulance Service Permit" means written authorization by the County to provide non-emergency ambulance service within specified Emergency Response area(s).
Sections:
48-6.002 Required.
48-6.004 Application-Forms.
48-6.006 Application-Required data.
48-6.008 Applicant-Investigation.
48-6.010 Issuance.
48-6.012 Term.
48-6.013 Appeal from permit denial.
48-6.014 Temporary-When issued.
48-6.016 Application-Change of data.
48-6.020 Termination.

48-6.002 Required. No person (either as owner, agent or otherwise) shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain or otherwise engage in, or advertise, offer or profess to engage in the ambulance service unless he/she holds (and is entitled to hold) a currently valid ambulance service permit.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-6.004 Application-Forms. Each application for an ambulance service permit shall be made upon forms prescribed by the permit officer.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-6.006 Application-Required data. (a) Non-emergency service. Each application for a non-emergency ambulance service permit shall show the following data:

1. The name(s) and address(es) of the applicant(s) and of the owner(s) of the ambulance(s) and the business or any interest therein;

2. The applicant's training and experience in the transportation and care of patients;

3. The names under which the applicant has engaged, does, or proposes to engage in ambulance service;

4. A description of each ambulance including: the make, model, year of manufacture, vehicle identification number; current state license number; the length of time the vehicle has been in use; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram and other distinguishing characteristics of the vehicle; a description of the company's program for maintenance of the vehicle; and a description of the vehicle's radio(s);

5. That the applicant has obtained all licenses and permits required by state laws or regulations for the type of ambulance service proposed;

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(9) A description of the Company's training and orientation programs for attendants and for dispatchers;

(10) Evidence of such financial responsibility and insurance coverage as may be required by the permit officer;

(11) Facts relied on by the applicant in asserting that the public health, safety, welfare, convenience and necessity warrant the granting of the non-emergency ambulance service permit.

(b) Emergency Service. Each applicant who desires an Emergency Ambulance Service Permit shall, in addition to the information required by paragraph (a) above, also show:

(1) The ability of the applicant to provide emergency ambulance service within established response times for each emergency response area applied for, twenty four hours per day, seven days per week, year round;

(2) The emergency response area(s) in which the applicant wishes to provide emergency ambulance service;

(3) That the public health, safety, welfare, convenience and necessity warrant the granting of the emergency ambulance service permit;

(4) All service charges and the rate structure of the company;

(5) Whether the service will include limited advanced or advanced life support service, and, if so:

   (i) The number of limited advanced and/or advanced life support units to be deployed on each shift;

   (ii) The emergency response area(s) to receive limited advanced life support service;

   (iii) The emergency response area(s) to receive advanced life support service; and

   (iv) The provisions, if any, for continuing education of the limited advanced and advanced life support attendants.

(c) Additional Information: The applicant may be required to submit such other information as the permit officer deems necessary for determination of compliance with this division.

(Ord. 83-28 §1(part), 70-77.)

48-6.008 Applicant - Investigation. Upon receipt of a completed application and the required fee, the permit officer shall make or cause to be made such investigation as the health officer deems necessary to determine if:

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(d) That the radio(s) in each vehicle is (are) installed pursuant to regulations adopted by the permit officer, and is (are) in good working order.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)

48-6.012 Issuance. The permit officer shall issue an ambulance service permit to the applicant if the permit officer determines that the requirements contained in section 48-6.008 have been satisfied and complied with.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-6.013 Appeal From Permit Denial. Whenever the permit officer denies an application for a non-emergency or emergency ambulance service permit, the applicant may request a hearing on the denial at which the applicant will have the burden of proof. The hearing will be scheduled within 30 days of the applicant’s written request for hearing. The provisions of sections 48-14.010, 48-14.012, and 48-14.014 shall apply to such hearings, except that the applicant and the county shall share equally in the costs of any hearing officer and court reporter.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)

48-6.014 Term. Permits shall be valid for a period of three years, unless earlier suspended, revoked or terminated. Nothing in this division shall be construed as requiring the granting of a permit upon expiration of a previous permit, or as creating any vested or property right in the renewal, extension, or continuance of any permit after the expiration of its term.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-6.016 Temporary — When Issued. The Permit Officer may issue a temporary permit for a period of not over 90 days, renewable for cause expressed in writing by the permit officer.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 83-3, 70-77.)

48-6.018 Application — Change of Data. The applicant and permittee shall report to the permit officer any change in the data required in section 48-6.006 within ten days of the effective date of the change, except that any change in the data required in section 48-6.006 (a) (1) and (5) shall be reported immediately.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-6.020 Termination. Any change of ownership of a permitted ambulance service terminates the permit.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)
48-8.004 Inspection. Ambulance service operators shall allow the permit officer, or designee(s), to inspect, on a preannounced or unannounced basis, all ambulances used to provide ambulance service. The purpose of such inspections may include, but shall not be limited to, determining if:

(a) The ambulance is properly maintained and equipped for the provision of ambulance service;

(b) The description of the ambulance, required by §48-6.006 (a)(4), is accurate;

(c) The ambulance contains radio(s) installed pursuant to regulations adopted by the Permit Officer, and that the radio(s) is (are) in good working order.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

Chapter 48-10

FEES

Sections:
48-10.002 Permit.
48-10.004 Temporary Permit.
48-10.010 Payment.

48-10.002 Permit. A nonrefundable fee in the form prescribed by the permit officer shall accompany every application for an ambulance service permit, in accordance with the following:

(a) The fee for a non-emergency ambulance service permit, regardless of the number of emergency response areas to be served, shall be established by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

(b) The fee for an emergency ambulance service permit shall be such sum per emergency response area to be served as shall be established by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-10.004 Temporary Permit. (a) Amount: A non refundable fee in an amount established by resolution of the Board of Supervisors shall be required before the permit officer may issue a temporary ambulance service permit.

(b) Credit: If a regular ambulance service permit is issued to a temporary permit holder, the regular permit shall be deemed
Chapter 48-12

PERSONNEL STANDARDS

Sections:
48-12.002 Drivers and Attendants.
48-12.004 Uniform and appearance.
48-12.006 Dispatchers.

48-12.002 Drivers and attendants. Each person providing ambulance service subject to permit under this division shall:

(a) Employ only drivers who possess a valid Ambulance Driver certificate issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles;

(b) Employ only attendants who have valid certification pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 1797 et.seq., or regulations promulgated pursuant to those provisions.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-12.004 Uniform and appearance. Each person providing ambulance services subject to permit under this division shall staff each ambulance with appropriate personnel who shall wear clean uniforms, be neat and clean and comply with the requirements of this division and such other requirements as may be prescribed by the permit officer to assure compliance with this division.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-12.006 Dispatchers. Each person providing ambulance service subject to permit under this division shall assign at least one person to be responsible for receiving calls and dispatching ambulances.

Persons holding emergency ambulance service permit(s) under this division shall provide such dispatch services on a 24 hour per day basis and shall adequately train the dispatcher to radio operation and protocols and to the emergency response area(s) served before said dispatcher begins dispatching emergency calls.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)

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48-14.002 Authority. The permit officer may suspend or revoke an ambulance service permit for failure to comply with and maintain compliance with, or for violation of, any applicable provisions, standards or requirements of state law or regulation, of this division, or of any regulations promulgated hereunder. Suspension is not a condition precedent to revocation.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-14.004 Notice issuance. Before suspension or revocation, the permit officer shall give written notice to the permittee specifying why such action is contemplated and giving the permittee a reasonable period of time (not less than seven nor more than fifteen days) to comply with the provisions in question or to show cause against suspension or revocation and setting a date for hearing thereon.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-14.006 Hearing. At the hearing the permit officer has the burden of proof and may present evidence as to why such action should be taken and to answer the evidence presented by the permittee.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-14.008 Emergency action. The permit officer may reduce the period of time for compliance under a suspension or revocation notice to no less than 24 hours and set the matter for hearing immediately upon expiration of said period when he/she makes written preliminary findings that such action is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare. When, as a result of such an emergency proceeding a permit is suspended or revoked, the permittee may request an additional hearing at which the permittee will have the burden of establishing renewed compliance justifying reinstatement of the permit. Such additional hearing will be commenced within five days of the permittee's request. The request for, or the scheduling of, an additional hearing shall not stay operation of the suspension or revocation order.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-14.010 Evidence. In hearings conducted pursuant to this chapter, evidence must be relevant, non-cumulative, and of such nature as responsible persons are accustomed to rely on in the conduct of serious affairs. Written statements by a county officer or employee, an officer or employee of the State of California, or an officer or employee of any law enforcement or fire protection agency acting in the course and scope of their official duties or employment may be accepted as evidence that such fact(s) or condition(s) do or do not exist.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)
Chapter 48-16

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Sections:
48-16.002 General requirements.
48-16.004 Change of area map.
48-16.005 Ambulance Service Agreements.
48-16.006 Preparation of area lists.

48-16.002 General requirements. When responding to an emergency call and/or operating "Code 3" or its equivalent, the ambulance driver shall see that the radio is activated; shall notify the appropriate county communications center that he/she is responding to an emergency call and/or operating "Code 3" or its equivalent; shall notify the appropriate county communications center of the destination; and shall comply with all orders and directions given by the county communications center.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 79-77.)

48-16.004 Change of area map. The permit officer may change the boundaries of the emergency response areas after public hearing, noticed in accordance with section 48-20.002(b). The effective date of any such change shall be the thirtieth day after the date of the change.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 79-44, 70-77.)

48-16.005 Ambulance Service Agreements. The County shall contract, on a competitive basis, for provision of emergency ambulance service in each emergency response area to persons contacting the County for such service. Said contracts shall provide for one primary contractor per emergency response area, with allowance for back-up service by other emergency ambulance service providers as deemed necessary by the permit officer. In awarding these contracts (ambulance service agreements) the County shall consider the comparative value of competing proposals, including consideration of:

(a) the quality of service to be provided;
(b) the level of service to be provided;
(c) the rates charged for services to be provided; and
(d) the cost, if any, to the County.

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lists. The permit officer shall include on the list for each emergency response area the ambulance service provider who has entered into an ambulance service agreement with the county as the primary contractor as well as the ambulance service provider(s) who will provide back-up emergency ambulance service for that area.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-16.008 Compulsory Emergency Ambulance Service. In the event no proposals acceptable to the County under the provisions of section 48-16.005 are received by the County for one or more Emergency Response Areas, the Health Officer shall designate in writing one or more of the ambulance service permittees (emergency and/or non-emergency) in that emergency response area to provide emergency ambulance services, without necessity of an emergency permit. From the date of such written designation until a regular ambulance service agreement is signed for the affected area(s), provision of emergency ambulance service shall be an express condition of the emergency and/or non-emergency permit and unreasonable or unjustified refusal of such calls shall be grounds for suspension or revocation of the permit(s).
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)

Chapter 48-18
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sections:
48-18.002 Dispatching
48-18.003 Unauthorized Response
48-18.004 Renewal of permits.
48-18.006 Responsible Advertising
48-18.008 Adoption by Local Jurisdictions.
48-18.010 Local EMS Agency

48-18.002 Dispatching. (a) Ambulance Available:

(1) Emergency: Upon receiving a call for emergency ambulance service the permittee shall immediately dispatch an ambulance to the address or place given and the ambulance dispatched shall immediately start a direct run to that address or place and shall complete that run unless directed otherwise by the appropriate county communications center, or unless diverted to respond to another emergency.

(2) Non-Emergency: Upon receiving a call for non-emergency ambulance service the permittee shall promptly dispatch, or schedule for dispatch at a time acceptable to the caller, an ambulance to the address or place given and the ambulance shall promptly, or at the time scheduled, start a direct run to that address or place and shall complete that run unless directed otherwise by the appropriate county communications center, or unless diverted to respond to an emergency.
2) Non-Emergency: Upon receiving a call for non-emergency ambulance service and having no ambulance available to make a direct run to the address or place given, or to do so at some later time agreeable to the caller, the permittee shall immediately notify the caller of this fact.

(c) Ambulance Diverted: If an ambulance is directed to make a direct run to an address or place and is thereafter diverted for any reason, the permittee shall immediately inform the caller of this fact, and, in the case of emergency service, if the caller cannot be notified the permittee shall immediately notify the appropriate county communications center.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-18.003 Unauthorized Response. No ambulance service permittee under this division shall cause or allow its ambulance(s) to respond to a location without first receiving a specific request for such service at that location.

Ambulance service permittees shall cooperate with the permit officer, or designee(s), in any investigations of possible violations of this section and shall make all dispatch logs and similar records available for inspection and copying at reasonable times at the permittee's regular place of business.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-18.004 Renewal of Permits. Renewal of an ambulance service permit shall require conformance with all requirements of this division as upon issuance of an initial permit. Nothing in this division shall be construed as requiring the granting of a permit upon expiration of a previous permit, and the burden of proof respecting compliance with all the requirements for a permit and of entitlement to a permit shall remain at all times with the applicant for renewal.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-18.006 Responsible Advertising. No ambulance service permittee under this division shall announce, advertise, offer, or in any way claim that:

(a) It provides emergency ambulance service unless it possesses a current, valid, emergency ambulance service permit for the Emergency Response Area(s) where it is claiming to provide such service; or

(b) It provides limited advanced or advanced life support service, unless it actually provides such service.

(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part).)

48-18.008 Adoption by local jurisdictions. Upon adoption of this ordinance by incorporated cities or towns in the County of Contra Costa, the provisions of section 48-4.006 shall be extended to include the streets, roads, highways, alleys, or any public place within the incorporated area of said city or town and the

ORDINANCE NO. 83-28
Chapter 48-20

ENFORCEMENT

Sections:
48-20.002 Authority.
48-20.004 Investigations.
48-20.005 Permit officer decision final.
48-20.006 Violations prohibited.

48-20.002 Authority. (a) Adoption: The permit officer, after consultation with the county emergency medical care committee, and after public hearing, may adopt and enforce such reasonable regulations concerning personnel, training, equipment, communication, or any other matter which the permit officer determines necessary for the public health and safety regarding the operation of ambulances and to effectuate the provisions of this division.

(b) Notice: The permit officer shall give notice of the time and place of the public hearing at least fourteen days in advance by:

(1) Mailing notice to all persons requesting notice, to all persons holding non-emergency and/or emergency ambulance service permit(s); and

(2) Posting in the lobby of the county administration building.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 70-77.)

48-20.004 Investigations. (a) Scope: Whenever in this division the permit officer is required to make, or cause to be made, such investigation as the permit officer deems necessary to determine if certain fact(s) or condition(s) exist, the permit officer may accept a written statement by a county officer or employee, an officer or employee of the state of California, or an officer or employee of any law enforcement or fire protection agency acting within the course and scope of their official duties or employment as evidence that such fact(s) or condition(s) do or do not exist.

(b) Time: Whenever in this division the permit officer is required to make, or cause to be made an investigation with regard to an application for an ambulance service permit, the permit officer shall complete the investigation and either approve or deny the application, in whole or in part, within ninety days of the date of application.
(Ord. 83-28 §1 (part), 83-3, 70-77.)

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ORDINANCE NO. 83-28
SECTION II: CREDIT FOR FEES PAID. In considering applications for the 1983 Ambulance Service Permits the permit officer shall treat pending applications as if they had been filed under the Ambulance Ordinance as amended herein, unless the applicant withdraws the application, and in determining the fee payable for the 1983-85 permits hereunder the Permit Officer shall credit the applicants with the amount paid under the former ordinance.

SECTION III: EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance becomes effective 30 days after passage, and within 15 days of passage shall be published once with the names of supervisors voting for and against it in the MARTINEZ NEWS-GAZETTE a newspaper published in this County.

PASSED on July 12, 1983 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors—Powers, Fahden, Torlakson, Schroeder.
NOES: Supervisors—McPeak.
ABSENT: Supervisors—None.

ATTEST: J. R. OLSSON, County Clerk & ex officio Clerk of the Board

By Diana M. Herman Deputy Board Chair

[SEAL]
term of the contract shall extend the contract more than eighteen (18) months beyond the termination date set forth in the contract.