



CERTIFICATION ADVISORY

TO: EMS Service Providers
EMS Field Providers (EMTs and Paramedics)

FROM: Professional Standards and Certification Section
Contra Costa County Emergency Medical Services

DATE: November 6, 2015

SUBJECT: ISTM Continuing Education Certificates

The EMS Agency has been notified that the continuing education (CE) provider approval for the International School of Tactical Medicine (ISTM) expired May 31, 2014. Notwithstanding the expiration of ISTM's CE provider approval, ISTM has continued to operate and issue CE certificates in violation of the EMS regulations. Any CE certificate issued by ISTM since June 1, 2014, under CE provider number 33-0047 is invalid and may not be used for the purpose of CE for EMT recertification or paramedic license renewal.

The EMS Agency is conducting an audit of all EMT recertification applications submitted since June 1, 2014. The reason for the audit is to determine if CE certificates issued by ISTM were used to fulfill the CE requirements for EMT recertification. In the event an EMT used an ISTM CE certificate issued under CE provider number 33-0047 for recertification, the EMS Agency will require that the affected EMT submit documentation of CE from another approved CE provider for the period in which the ISTM CE hours were used for EMT recertification. If an EMT does not have additional CE from another approved CE provider during the recertification cycle for which the ISTM CE hours were applied, the EMT will be required to obtain and submit the required CE hours to the Agency within 90 days from the date the EMT is notified by the EMS Agency. The additional CE hours will be applied to the previous recertification cycle and will not be credited toward future EMT recertification.

EMTs who submitted to the EMS Agency CE hours issued from ISTM under CE provider number 33-0047 for the purpose of EMT recertification must notify the EMS Agency within 10 days from the date of this advisory.

The EMS Authority has requested that paramedics working in Contra Costa County who



used CE hours issued after June 1, 2014, by ISTM under CE provider number 33-0047 for renewal of their paramedic license notify the Contra Costa County EMS Agency within 10 days. Paramedics accredited in counties other than Contra Costa who used any CE hours from ISTM under CE provider number 33-0047 for renewal of their paramedic license must notify the California EMS Authority's (EMSA) paramedic licensure unit at (916) 322-4336.

