

**CHAPTER 14**

**TACTICAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FIRST RESPONDER  
OPERATIONAL PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<u>GENERAL</u> .....	14-3
<u>POLICY</u> .....	14-3
<u>TRAINING</u> .....	14-3

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## CHAPTER 14

### TACTICAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FIRST RESPONDER OPERATIONAL PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL. The Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) First Responder Operational (FRO) is a uniformed employee selected, specially trained, and equipped to provide tactical medical care. All TEMS FROs shall operate within their scope of practice. The primary mission of the TEMS FRO is to safely and properly administer emergency medical care and lifesaving interventions during incidents involving tactical operations.

a. Officers assigned as a Special Response Team TEMS FRO shall attend the TEMS FRO course regardless of any other training they have completed.

2. POLICY.

a. A TEMS FRO shall operate in accordance with guidelines outlined by the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Social Security, Division 9, Prehospital Emergency Medical Services, Chapter 1.5, First Aid and CPR Standards and Training for Public Safety Personnel; Chapter 2, Emergency Medical Technician; Chapter 3, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician; Chapter 4, Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic; and departmental policy.

b. When necessary, Division commanders may determine the deployment of TEMS FROs during tactical operations. The primary mission of a TEMS FRO during a tactical operation is to safely and properly administer emergency medical care and lifesaving interventions. A TEMS FRO should be attached to squads when the squads are actively involved in crowd control situations.

c. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) Medical Director can be called upon prior to and during tactical operations to assist with operational support. The CHP Medical Director plays an important role in the general oversight of all emergency medical services (EMS) operations. The CHP Medical Director can provide a higher level of medical assistance, especially during incidents involving prolonged operations or those involving compromised medical infrastructures.

3. TRAINING.

a. All TEMS FROs shall successfully complete the 24-hour TEMS FRO course instructed by the Academy, EMS Unit, and the Advanced Officer Safety Training Unit. The TEMS FRO course will be conducted in accordance with California

Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapters 1.5 through 4, and California Emergency Medical Services Authority approval.

- b. Upon successful completion of the TEMS FRO course, TEMS FROs will be issued a Department-approved EMS pack and a certificate of completion. Only TEMS FROs possessing a current certification are authorized to deploy as a TEMS FRO.
- c. TEMS FROs are required to complete refresher training once every two years.
- d. Courses that may be attended for additional training include the following:
  - (1) An Emergency Medical Services Authority-approved TEMS FRO course.
  - (2) An 80-hour Tactical Medicine for Special Operations course.
- e. Department-approved TEMS FROs are responsible for the following:
  - (1) Completing the required refresher training once every two years.
  - (2) Rendering professional medical service within their scope of practice.
  - (3) Accurately completing all documentation related to patient care and submitting reports to the Academy, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Unit.
  - (4) Communicating all relevant information to the on-scene commander concerning medical services provided.