

Subject:	<b>Mass Casualty Incidents</b>	
Effective:	<b>8/2/2018</b>	<b>Procedure</b>
Update:		
Reference:		

**PURPOSE**

To describe the actions and notifications dispatchers should take when a mass casualty incident (MCI) occurs within the county jurisdiction. Refer to the Santa Barbara County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency Multi-Casualty Incident Response Plan for a complete description and response criteria.

**MCI LEVELS IN S.B. COUNTY**

**MCI LEVEL 1**

5-14 Patients (approximately)

A suddenly occurring event that overwhelms the routing first response assignment. The number of patients is greater than can be handled by the usual initial response. Depending on the severity of the injuries, the system may have adequate resources to respond and transport the patients. Duration of the incident is expected to be less than 1 hour. Examples: Motor vehicle accidents, active shooter.

**MCI LEVEL II**

15-50 patients (approximately)

A suddenly occurring event that overwhelms the first response assignment and, potentially, additional resources requested within the Operational Area and neighboring counties. Regional medical mutual aid system is activated. An adequate number of additional ambulances are not likely to be immediately available, creating a delay in transporting patients. The duration of incident is expected to be greater than an hour. Examples: Bus crash, train accident, active shooter, improvised explosive device (IED).

**MCI LEVEL III**

50 + patients (approximately)

A suddenly occurring event that overwhelms the first response assignment, additional resources requested within the Operational Area, and mutual aid from neighboring counties (approximately 50+ victims). It is not possible to respond with an adequate number of ambulances to the incident and promptly respond to other requests for ambulance service. Regional medical mutual aid system is activated. Air and ground ambulance and other resources from outside the county will need to be requested. Not only will ambulance service be inadequate but receiving hospitals will be overwhelmed. In an incident of this size, the operational area EOC and disaster plan may be activated. Examples: Commercial airline crash, building

collapse, active shooter.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Upon receipt of an incident that could have the potential for becoming an MCI, the dispatch center should:
  - a. Advise all initial responding resources of the potential for the incident to be an MCI, including number of patients, extent of damage, etc.
  - b. Include the Field Supervisors in the notification (Battalion Chief, AMR Supervisor and Patrol Sergeants).
  
2. Upon declaration of the MCI by on-scene units, the dispatch center should:
  - a. Notify the on-call EMS Agency duty officer (if it is a Level 2 or higher.)
  - b. If not already done so, clarify need for additional resources.
  - c. If the incident has the potential to significantly impact the operations of the dispatch center, the on-duty dispatch supervisor should send a CAD page for additional dispatchers to assist and notify the Communications Manager (who will notify the Operations Support Division Commander.)
  
3. Upon declaration of the termination of the MCI operation, the dispatch center will broadcast the termination of the MCI operation and notify all previously notified agencies.