

STAFF REPORT

<b>BOARD MEETING DATE:</b>	January 9, 2024
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**CATEGORY:** Consent Calendar 4

**SUBJECT:** Approve and designate authority to sign a retroactive agreement with Dignity Health, dba Mercy Medical Center Redding, for base hospital services.

**DEPARTMENT:** County Fire

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #:** All

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** Julia Hayen, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, (530) 225-2516

**STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY:** Sean O'Hara, County Fire Warden

<b><u>Vote Required?</u></b> Simple Majority Vote	<b><u>General Fund Impact?</u></b> No General Fund Impact
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**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve and designate authority to the Shasta County Fire Warden to sign a retroactive Memorandum of Understanding, effective November 1, 2023, with Dignity Health, dba Mercy Medical Center Redding, for base hospital services to provide medical direction and quality review services to the Shasta County Fire Department Advanced Life Support Services in Shasta County, with no compensation for the period November 1, 2023, through October 31, 2028.

**DISCUSSION**

Shasta County Fire Department (SCFD) is an “all risk” fire department and provides Basic Life Support (BLS) medical services as a part of the emergency response services. Currently, SCFD is able to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) medical service in two rural communities in Shasta County with volunteer firefighters. Since the SCFD mission only provides for BLS, these volunteers maintain their ALS certifications through other agencies, generally their employer, and they are able to transfer these skills to their volunteer service with SCFD.

SCFD is required to have a “base hospital” designated to provide medical direction and quality review services for the ALS program. Mercy Medical Center Redding (MMCR) has been designated by Sierra-Sacramento Valley Local Emergency Medical Service Agency as the trauma center for Shasta County. MMCR is also the designated base hospital for all ambulance services in Shasta County.

This MOU will designate MMCR as the base hospital for SCFD as well. The designation will allow MMCR to provide specialty prescription medical supplies carried only by ALS providers and quality control review services for the SCFD ALS program. These base hospital services through the MOU are provided at no cost to SCFD. This MOU meets the Sierra-Sacramento Valley requirement that all ALS providers have a designated base hospital.

Shasta County is a rural county with extended medical response time for many areas of the County. Though the SCFD ALS program is small, it provides additional medical response services for the areas most in need. This MOU will allow SCFD to meet the requirements for an ALS program and provide services to the citizens of Shasta County.

This MOU is retroactive due to the amount of time it has taken to complete a thorough process of identifying a base hospital and then completing negotiations.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The Board may choose not to approve the recommendation actions or request additional information. Not approving the recommendation will cause Shasta County Fire Department to continue to be without the support of a base hospital for ALS

services.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form. Risk Management has approved the agreement. The Recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the Memorandum of Understanding.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1: MOU with Dignity Health dba Mercy Medical Center Redding