

El Dorado County Fire Protection District

Standard Operating Guideline

Article: 3 **Emergency Operations**

Adopted: 04/20/2023

Section: 28 **Helicopter Rescue Technician**

Revised:

I. Purpose:

El Dorado County Fire Protection District HRT members will adhere to these guidelines for deployment, training, and utilization as an HRT. HRT personnel will be trained and deployed for external load operations including hoisting, short haul, helocasting and hover/one-skid operations. HRT members will be utilized as a third crewmember for insertion into incidents to expedite safe extraction of patients from emergency incidents. This SOG will ensure the safe utilization of rescue equipment and extractions during rescue missions- increasing safety for helicopter crewmembers, rescue personnel and injured public. This SOG will ensure the deployment of an HRT member is conducted rapidly following approval from the chain of command and without interfering with daily operations. These members will have the proficiency to complete deployments and will have met the training requirements to operate safely.

II. Standard:

- A. It is the intent of the district to maintain a HRT team of 6 members. HRT members will have an initial certification of skills competency set forth by CHP Valley Division Air Operations with required annual recertification. All training will be in accordance with CHP Manual HPM 100.7 Air Operations Manual. CHP Valley Division Air Operations will conduct and offer approximately 8 trainings per year. HRT members will be required to attend 4 trainings per year to maintain currency. If any member fails to meet minimum training hours they will be removed from the team. The district will promote proficiency over currency, therefore at any time if a member conducts themselves unbecoming, fails to perform or commits a safety violation they may be removed from the team as seen fit by CHP personnel. All training will be input into Image Trend and HRT Coordinator informed to log particulars including:, IR #, date, times, nature of request, evolution/skills used.
- B. Each HRT member will be issued a cache of equipment. Equipment is to remain with HRT while on duty at all times. All gear will be cared for following NFPA 1983 guidelines and inspected weekly and after usage by the member assigned. All equipment will be replaced at 10 year intervals, regardless of condition, unless discovered prior to be torn, damaged or prematurely worn.
- C. Procedure for deployment requires notification through the chain of command to duty officer identifying the location, nature of the incident and, if possible, the duration of commitment. Duty officer maintains ability to approve or decline deployment considering ground response

procedures and extenuating circumstances. No personnel assigned to EDCJPA ambulances are permitted to downstaff. Duty officer maintains ability to reposition or backfill unit affected.

- D. Proper PPE for deployment includes, at minimum, issued harness and carabiner, helmet, safety tag line, gloves, eye protection and portable radio. Additional equipment provided by the HRT and deemed influential to the mission may be utilized if approved by the flight crew and not falling under life safety NFPA 1903.
- E. All HRT deployments will generate an IR# and be input into ECF NFIRS reporting system and HRT Coordinator informed to log particulars including: IR #, date, times, nature of request, evolution/skills used (ECF SOG ART 1 SECT 1). All HRT deployments involving a medical element will follow EMSA EMS documentation policy and a patient care report will be prepared within 24 hours or prior to going off shift.