



TO: All EMS Stakeholders

FROM: Bruce Barton, Riverside County EMS Agency Director

SUBJECT: Riverside County EMS Agency Medical Director *BB*

DATE: September 26, 2013

The Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) Medical Director position was recently converted from a contracted position to a Riverside County Department of Public Health employee position. This has required a hiring selection process for the employment of a qualified physician capable of working 20 hours per week to fill this new position.

We are pleased to announce that Daved van Stralen, MD, FAAP has accepted the position as REMSA's Medical Director. He has many years experience as Medical Director for San Bernardino County Fire Department and American Medical Response of San Bernardino County. His experience in EMS dates back to the 1970s when he worked at Adam's Ambulance Service of South Gate and Los Angeles City Fire Department's Rescue Ambulance Service. In 1987, he became one of the first career paramedics to become a physician. Dr. van Stralen utilized his paramedic background to help develop the first clinical academic degree programs for EMS, west of the Mississippi, at Loma Linda University School of Allied Health. He remains active and nationally known for his promotion of High Reliability Organization practices and principles. He is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics, Loma Linda University School of Medicine and an Adjunct Professor of EMS at Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa, CA.

We would like to also acknowledge and thank Dr. Humberto Ochoa for his 21 years of service as the Medical Director for REMSA. Dr. Ochoa will continue to work as an Emergency Department staff physician at Riverside County Regional Medical Center.