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SUSAN GOLDING

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 22, 1992

Chief Gary McPherson, President
San Diego County Paramedics Agencies Committee
Poway Fire Department
13050 Community Road
Poway, California 92064

Dear Gary:

We would like to ask your assistance in a matter of great importance relative to the future of the San Diego County Trauma System.

We are requesting your participation on the special Trauma Advisory Task Force which we have requested be convened to discuss critical Trauma System issues relative to system status in fiscal, clinical and systemwide areas.

On November 1, 1983, (#55) the Board of Supervisors adopted Trauma Standards for the implementation of the San Diego County Trauma System. In the past seven years, the San Diego County Trauma System has significantly reduced preventable or potentially preventable deaths. During this time, however, there have been changes to prehospital and hospital operations and financing that impact the Trauma System.

On February 25, 1992, (#40) Supervisors Golding and Williams were asked by the Board of Supervisors to reconvene the Trauma Task Force to review the issues of trauma care delivery in San Diego County (copy enclosed).

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division is suggesting the establishment of a main executive committee and three subcommittees: Fiscal, Clinical Standards and Systems. The main Executive Committee will be led by Supervisor Golding and Supervisor Williams and the membership is proposed to be the Chairs of the various constituency groups involved in the trauma system (MAC, PAC, EMCC, CPAC, Ambulance Association, Fire Chiefs, Hospital Council, Medical Society, etc.) This group will be charged with reviewing the work of the subcommittees and preparing the final report to be presented to the Department and the Board of Supervisors.

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Each subcommittee will be charged with reviewing the current status, studying any available data/research and answering a set of predetermined questions that will be used to develop, modify and recommend changes to the San Diego County trauma policies for the 90's.

The fiscal subcommittee will be looking at the financial viability of the Trauma System, prehospital, hospital, and administrative costs will be examined. The clinical standards subcommittee will be reviewing the current trauma contract standards, triage criteria and interfacility hospital transfers. The systems subcommittee will be reviewing life flight utilization, geographic coverage, transport times and bypass issues. Each of the subcommittees is sure to be exciting and provide opportunities for constituency input and consensus building.

We would like to ask your participation on the Executive Committee. It is anticipated that a number of meetings will occur and that additional reading and research time in preparation for the meetings may be necessary. The Executive Committee is to complete their work by June 30, 1992, although we are hopeful that an extension to September 30, 1992 will be granted.

We hope you'll consider serving on the Trauma Executive Committee. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to Gail Cooper, Chief, Emergency Medical Services Division, no later than May 1, 1992 (FAX #285-6496).

Thank you for your participation and cooperation. We look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

SUSAN GOLDING
Supervisor
District Three

LEON L. WILLIAMS
Supervisor
District Four

SG:LLW:bb
Enclosures