

SANTA CLARA POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 96.1

REFUSAL OF CARE TRANSPORT

ISSUED APRIL 2006

96.1.1 Patient Refusal of Care/Transport

Purpose

To ensure that the Police Department is in compliance with County E.M.S. Policy on Patient Refusal of Care/Transport and with Santa Clara Fire Department policy.

Procedure

When any of the following persons has given an informed refusal of medical care, the Department will provide no medical assistance:

- Competent Adult
- Any minor legally able to make medical decisions who is competent and emancipated by a valid marriage (whether dissolved or not), active military duty, a court declaration of emancipation (w/ valid copy of declaration), or any minor 15 years of age or older living separate and apart from parents or guardian and managing his/her financial affairs.
- Competent legal representatives of a patient, including a qualified relative/care giver. At no time may a spouse or relative who is not the legal representative of the patient make a decision to refuse evaluation, treatment, or transportation for the patient.

The Department member will ensure that emergency medical personnel respond to the scene to document the person's refusal of medical assistance.

The only time we should cancel the emergency medical personnel is if the patient has left the area.

For additional information, refer to the June 1995 Training Bulletin on Patient Refusal of Care/Transport.