



Chapters 197 and 157

...And the Gap Left Between Them

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Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 22 EXAMINING BOARDS
PART 9 TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD
CHAPTER 197 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Rules

- §197.1 Purpose
- §197.2 Definitions
- §197.3 Off-line Medical Director
- §197.4 On-Line Medical Direction
- §197.5 Authority for Control of Medical Services at the Scene of a Medical Emergency
- §197.6 Authority To Conduct Research and/or Educational Studies



- The purpose of this chapter is to facilitate the most appropriate utilization of the skills of physicians who delegate health care tasks to qualified emergency medical services (EMS) personnel. Such delegation shall be consistent with the patient's health and welfare and shall be undertaken pursuant to supervisory guidelines, which take into account the skill, training, and experience of both physicians and EMS personnel.



- Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to relieve the supervising physician of the professional or legal responsibility for the care and treatment of his or her patients. A physician who, after agreeing to supervise EMS personnel, fails to do so adequately and properly, may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the Medical Practice Act.



- A medical director shall not be held responsible for noncompliance with this chapter if the EMS administration fails to provide the necessary administrative support to permit compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

A red and white Houston Fire Department (HFD) ambulance is parked on a concrete pier next to a body of water. The side of the ambulance is labeled with "HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT", "HFD", "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE", and "SQ 19". A large yellow text overlay "Chapter 197.3.b.8" is centered over the image.

Chapter 197.3.b.8

- develop a letter or agreement or contract between the medical director(s) and the EMS administration outlining the specific responsibilities and authority of each. The agreement should describe the process or procedure by which a medical director may withdraw responsibility for EMS personnel for noncompliance with the Emergency Medical Services Act, the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 773, the rules adopted in this chapter, and/or accepted medical standards;



Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 25 HEALTH SERVICES
PART 1 DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
CHAPTER 157 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

Subchapters

SUBCHAPTER A EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - PART A
SUBCHAPTER B EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER LICENSES
SUBCHAPTER C EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING AND COURSE APPROVAL
SUBCHAPTER D EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION
SUBCHAPTER G EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAUMA SYSTEMS



- Declaration of an employed medical director and a copy of the signed contract or agreement with a physician who is currently licensed in the State of Texas, in good standing with the Texas Medical Board, in compliance with Texas Medical Board rules, particularly regarding EMS as outlined in 22 Texas Administrative Code, Part 9, Texas Medical Board, Chapter 197, and in compliance with Title 3 of the Texas Occupations Code.



The Problem...

Powerless Accountability

- “Powerless Accountability is a Recipe For Disaster.” - Ken Miller
- Where does the Power lie?
 - Credentialling
 - Budget

What Are The Solutions?

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Thank You