

Dr. David R Saquet DO, FACEP
Medical Director, Maine EMS Region IV
Medical Director, Maine State Police Tactical Team
saquet@gmail.com
413-626-3658

Maine State Police Tactical Team Waiver Request:

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to request an equipment waiver of certain Maine EMS Rules regarding required equipment for the Maine State Police (MSP) Medical Unit. The team is licensed by the Board as a non-transporting EMS service at the EMT level, permitted to the Paramedic level. We are a small medical unit that specifically performs medical support & Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) for the MSP SWAT team. We have 1 paramedic and 1 current EMT who is in the process of completing his paramedic training. Our standard response plan is to have a paramedic level transporting ambulance service dispatched to any incident and staged just outside the zone of operations, in the 'green' zone, while we are operating in the non-green zones.

Our paramedic & EMT carry a very basic loadout enabling TCCC augmented by advanced airway management & analgesia if required. In addition, our paramedic will perform up to the level of paramedic on medical calls routinely encountered during his patrol duties as a Trooper if needed. Space in his patrol vehicle is significantly limited given the amount of other law enforcement & SWAT gear he is required to carry.

To this end he carries a drug box with all medications required to perform all MEMS protocols up to and including paramedic level of care, a monitor, airway kit, oxygen tank & equipment, portable manual suction, IV/IO/IM/IN supplies & fluids. He has a forward bag with standard TCCC equipment, and other miscellaneous equipment that is all MEMS approved. Our rising paramedic intends to do the same once he becomes certified as a paramedic.

Our request is to waive certain rules requiring equipment due to it being unnecessary for these troopers. Please see the list below, as published in the 'non-transporting equipment form.' Also, as per the MEMS rules Chapter 13: Waiver of rules, I believe the below criteria are fulfilled:

1. ***"Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver took reasonable steps to ascertain the rule and comply with it."*** I believe this organization took reasonable steps to comply with the rule. We do possess the necessary equipment but simply do not have a need to carry it.
2. ***"Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver was given inaccurate information by an agent or employee of the State EMS program."*** We were not given inaccurate information by anyone within the State EMS program.

3. ***“Whether the person or organization seeking the waiver, or any other individual or group, would be significantly injured or harmed if the rule were not waived.”*** We, and thus a small segment of the Maine population who may require our services, would suffer some harm if the equipment rule were not waived, in that we wouldn’t be able to operate, nor operate effectively.
4. ***“Whether waiver of the rule in the particular case would pose a health or safety risk to the public at large or a particular individual or community.”*** Waiving this rule would not pose a health or safety risk as we are providing TCCC to SWAT members & if needed, suspects/perpetrators, until the transporting ambulance crew can assume care, which is typically a very short period of time. As such most of the equipment required on a typical MEMS ambulance is not necessary for this team.
5. ***“Whether waiver of the rule in the particular case would establish a precedent that would unduly hinder the Board or office of EMS in its administration of Maine’s EMS system.”*** I do not believe waiving some equipment would unduly hinder the board or office of EMS in its administration of Maine’s EMS system.

I sincerely thank the members of the Maine Board of Emergency Medical Services for considering our request. Should any of you have any questions or wish to discuss this with me please feel free to reach out using any of the above means.

Respectfully in Service,

Dr. David R. Saquet DO, FACEP

We request a waiver of the following [rules](#) cited in Chapter 17 for only the equipment specifically listed:

- §9. Transporting Equipment:
 - 9'x2" straps,
- §8. Personal Protective & Safety Equipment:
 - Partial Waiver - We run single-person crews, so would like to only carry 1 vest per unit
 - Waive Surgical Masks - We use N-95s for all respiratory PPE applications
- §7. Patient Comfort:
 - Waive all - blankets, emesis basins, pillows, sheets, and towels
- §6. Immobilization:
 - Waive soft restraints, rigid extrication collars (adult & pediatric), head immobilization device, spinal immobilization devices (long & short), traction splint, 3"x36" padded board splints, and
 - Partial Waiver: 2 of 4 required 3"x15" padded board splints.
- §5. Fluids & Medications:
 - Partial Waiver - of 4,000 of 6,000 mL IV fluid for volume replacement and 1 of 2 D Cylinder Oxygen.
- §4. Dressings & Bandages:
 - Waive aluminum foil, adhesive bandages, roller bandages, burn sheet, 8" x 30" universal dressing, 5"x9" surgical dressings, 4"x4" sterile sponges, and OB kit.
- §3. Diagnostic and Monitoring Equipment:
 - Waive a non-glass thermometer
- §2. Airway Management Supplies:
 - Waive size 20, 22, 26, 30 French Nasal Airways, 40-60 mm Oral Airways, Bult Aspirator, Meconium Aspirator, Infant and Child BVM, Pediatric Bougie, CPAP, Size 2.5-4.5, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, and 8.5 ETTs, Size 5, 6, 8, and 10 gastric tubes, size 0, 1, and 2 straight laryngoscope blades, Size 1 and 2 curved laryngoscope blades, Nebulizers, Pediatric non-rebreather, Pediatric nasal Cannula, Infant non-rebreather, All flexible suction catheters, portable suction device, size 0-2.5 periglottic or transglottic devices.