

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Stone and Supervisor Ashley **SUBMITTAL DATE:** October 25, 2005

SUBJECT: Pre-registration of Medical Professionals and Verification of Malpractice Coverage in Time of State and National Emergencies

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Appoint one member of each of the following departments: Board of Supervisors, Executive Office, Information Technology, and appoint Mary Moreland (Emergency Services Division of Fire), Doug Bagley (Riverside County Regional Medical Center), Dr. Gary Feldman (Community Health Agency), and Ron Komers (Human Resources), to outline and implement a registration program to create a manageable, updateable, and current database of health professionals. This data base will include demographic data, professional specialty, proof of credentials and malpractice insurance.

On line registration processing should be encouraged on the County's website. License numbers submitted of all medical professionals can be verified via the internet at Board (of specialty) websites, e.g., Board of Pharmacy for Pharmacists.

Legislation may need to be authored and carried to amend the "Good Samaritan" laws to include indemnification of medical malpractice claims against any health care professional or respective public agency from the activities that result from the medical professionals intervention during a state or national declared emergency.

BACKGROUND: During Hurricane Katrina, it became painfully event that many health professionals were willing to donate their services yet were turned away because of inadequate proof of their medical credentials and proof of malpractice coverage indemnifying the public agency recruiting such services. This may have resulted in the unnecessary loss of life.



Jeff Stone
Supervisor
Third District



Marion Ashley, Chairman
Fifth District