



Kern County Sheriff's Office

Policies and Procedures

TITLE: Automated External Defibrillator			NO: P-0200
APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner			
EFFECTIVE: October 28, 2014	REVIEWED: June 19, 2025	REVISED: June 19, 2025	UPDATED: June 19, 2025

POLICY - PURPOSE AND SCOPE:

The purpose of the Kern County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Automatic External Defibrillation (PSAED) Program is to assist with the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) of a person who is in cardiac distress. Most cases of sudden cardiac arrest result from ventricular fibrillation. This is a rapid and unsynchronized heart rhythm starting in the heart's lower pumping chambers (the ventricles). In distress, the heart must be "defibrillated" quickly because a patient's chance of surviving drops by 7 to 10 percent for every minute a normal heartbeat is not restored.

Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) make it possible for more people to respond to a medical emergency where defibrillation is required. Because AEDs are portable, they can be used by trained staff members during their normal duties of assisting with CPR/First Aid.

The PSAED Program is regulated in various California counties in compliance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5 of the California Code of Regulation and Emergency Medical Services Division Policies and Procedures. In accordance with the State Regulation, all County Emergency Medical Services Divisions are required to develop and implement policies regarding the use and approval of AEDs in their respective counties. This policy will provide trained staff direction and expectations regarding the use of AEDs in the course and scope of their duties with the Kern County Sheriff's Office in order to comply with Kern County Emergency Medical Services Division (Kern County EMS) AED policy.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The intent of the Kern County Sheriff's Office PSAED Program is to provide early defibrillation for the unconscious and pulseless patient. Defibrillation at the earliest possible time may prevent or reduce mortality when used in association with basic life support and/or advanced life support EMS system resources. This program is implemented in the Kern County area as authorized by the Kern County EMS.

DEPLOYMENT AND MAINTENANCE - OPERATIONS:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office has AEDs issued to various personnel throughout the County of Kern. Only personnel who have successfully completed AED training are authorized to be issued an AED.

Personnel who are issued an AED will perform weekly inspections to ensure the AED is functional and ready for deployment which shall include the following:

The check shall include not just obvious functionality but also an inspection of both the child and adult pads' expiration dates. Personnel who are assigned AEDs will be responsible for maintaining the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Weekly Checklist (Attachment B). An AED Weekly Checklist shall be stored in the blue compartment of the assigned AED. AEDs assigned to individual personnel will be stored in the assigned personnel's patrol vehicles.

Once a month, supervisors will inspect all AEDs issued to personnel under their supervision. The check shall include not just obvious functionality but also ensuring that both child and adult pads are supplied with the AED and that the pads are within the recommended expiration date. Supervisors will be responsible for ensuring the assigned personnel maintain the AED Weekly Checklist. All AED Weekly Checklists will be turned into the assigned personnel's supervisor. Supervisors will ensure all completed AED Weekly Checklists are provided to the POST Training Sergeant or designee for archival either in person or via email at KCSOMedicalDirector@kernsheriff.org. All AED Weekly Checklists will be maintained for two years from the date of creation per Gov. Code § 26202.

If any AED is found to be inoperable during inspection, the AED shall be delivered to the Sheriff's Office property room for exchange by the end of shift or the next day in which the property room is open.

DEPLOYMENT AND MAINTENANCE - FACILITIES:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office also have AEDs issued to various facilities that include but are not limited to Detentions facilities, Sheriff's Headquarters, and substations. The AEDs shall be stored on the walls or other fixed locations for ready access. Only staff members who have successfully completed AED training are authorized to use an AED.

Once a week the supervisor (or designee) of the facility will check each AED to make sure it is functional and ready for deployment. This check shall include not just obvious functionality but also ensure both child and adult pads are supplied with the AED and within the recommended expiration date. The facility supervisor (or designee) will be responsible for maintaining the AED Weekly Checklist (Attachment B) which shall be stored in the blue compartment of the assigned AED.

If the AED is being inspected by a designee on a weekly basis, the facility supervisor or other designated supervisor will inspect all AEDs on a monthly basis. The check shall include not just obvious functionality but also ensuring that both child and adult pads are supplied with the AED and that the pads are within the recommended expiration date. Facility supervisors will be responsible for ensuring the AED check inspection log(s) are properly maintained for all facility AEDs. All completed AED Weekly Checklists shall be turned in to the facility supervisor or

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designee. The facility supervisor or designee will provide all completed AED Weekly Checklists to the POST Training Sergeant or designee for archival either in person or via email at KCSOMedicalDirector@kernsheriff.org. All AED Weekly Checklists will be maintained for two years from the date of creation per Gov. Code § 26202.

If any AED is found to be inoperable during inspection, the inspecting personnel shall immediately notify the facility supervisor or designee. The facility supervisor or designee shall ensure the AED is delivered to the property room for exchange by the end of shift or the next day in which the property room is open.

PROCEDURE FOR USE:

- The patient must be unconscious and pulseless

CONTRAINDICATIONS: AED will not be used if any of the following exist:

- The patient is under one (1) year of age
- Presence of pulse
- Conscious patients

PROCEDURE:

1. All standards of CPR/First Aid are to be used in conjunction with the AED equipment.

Note: Per PC 6048 (b), All sworn personnel working in a detentions capacity “shall be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and shall be required, when safe and appropriate to do so, to begin CPR on a non-responsive person without obtaining approval from supervisors or medical staff.”

2. AED trained personnel shall be responsible for accurately assessing the patient to determine if the AED use criteria are met.

Note: In a Sheriff’s Office facility where there are medical staff on site, the responsibility for accurately assessing the patient to determine if the AED use criteria are met falls upon the Facility Medical Staff and/or AED trained personnel.

3. The AED equipment shall not be applied if the patient does not meet all AED use procedures. Standard CPR/First Aid shall be provided as needed.
4. Once applied to the patient, AED equipment shall remain in place until advanced life support personnel with necessary Electrocardiogram (ECG) monitoring and defibrillation equipment assume care of the patient.

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5. Trained staff members, if presented with a valid Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) or Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) forms, will not administer any CPR/First Aid treatment.

TRAINING STANDARDS:

All AED operators must be trained and currently certified in CPR/AED by the Kern County Sheriff's Office Training Section.

PATIENT HAND-OFF/TRANSPORT PROCEDURES:

1. Patients with an AED in place may be released to a paramedic or an EMT-I for transport to the hospital.
2. In cases where an EMT-I ambulance is the transporting unit and the EMT-I staff are not trained in the use of the device or do not have an AED device, the AED provider must accompany the patient and maintain responsibility of the AED until the patient's care is transferred to an emergency department. Transport personnel will maintain responsibility for all other patient treatment and decisions during the transport to the emergency department.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT – OPERATIONS:

1. An incident report documenting the deployment shall be completed.
2. The incident report number and AED Defibrillation Report (Attachment A) or equivalent electronic report form shall be submitted to the POST Training Sergeant or designee by the end of their shift in which the AED was deployed. The case number and report may be submitted either in person or via email at KCSOMedicalDirector@kernsheriff.org.
 - a. Supervisors shall ensure that trained staff members complete the appropriate reports, including the AED Defibrillation Report anytime the AED is used on a patient.
3. When a Kern County Sheriff's Office AED is used, the responsible staff member shall maintain care and custody of the AED until the electronic data is released to the POST Training Sergeant or designee to be downloaded.
4. The POST Training Sergeant or designee will maintain care and custody of the AED until a download of the device is completed. The POST Training Sergeant or designee will

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ensure the download is booked into a Kern County Sheriff's Office property room or other approved digital evidence storage system.

5. The POST Training Sergeant or designee shall submit the AED electronic data and an AED Defibrillation Report to the Kern County EMS Division within 48 hours of use. In the event an AED deployment occurs on a Friday evening, the AED electronic data and AED Defibrillation Report shall be submitted to the Kern County EMS Division on the morning the POST Training Sergeant or their designee returns to work.
6. The Kern County EMS Department will submit program performance data to the California EMS Authority as required.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT – DETENTIONS:

1. An incident report documenting the deployment shall be completed.
2. The incident report number and AED Defibrillation Report (Attachment A) or equivalent electronic report form shall be submitted to the POST Training Sergeant or designee within 24 hours for each use of the device. Additionally, any use of an AED on an incarcerated person shall require the completion of a JMS incident.
 - a. Shift Supervisors shall ensure the trained staff members complete the appropriate reports, including the AED Defibrillation Report anytime the AED is used on a patient.
3. When a Kern County Sheriff's Office AED is used, the Shift Supervisor will ensure staff maintains care and custody of the AED until it is released to the facility Administrative Sergeant.
4. The facility Administrative Sergeant will maintain care and custody of the AED until it is released to the POST Training Sergeant or designee. The AED is to be delivered to the POST Training Sergeant or designee within 24 hours of use. In the event the AED deployment occurs on a Friday evening, weekend, or holiday, the facility Administrative Sergeant shall deliver the AED to the POST Training Sergeant or designee on the next day in which the POST Training Sergeant or designee is available.
5. The POST Training Sergeant or designee will maintain care and custody of the AED until a download of the device is completed. The POST Training Sergeant or designee will ensure the download is booked into a Kern County Sheriff's Office property room or other approved digital evidence storage system.

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6. The POST Training Sergeant or designee shall submit the AED electronic data and an AED Defibrillation Report to the Kern County EMS Division within 48 hours of use. In the event an AED deployment occurs on a Friday evening, the AED electronic data and AED Defibrillation Report shall be submitted to the Kern County EMS Division on the morning the POST Training Sergeant or their designee returns to work.
7. The Kern County EMS Department will submit program performance data to the California EMS Authority as required.

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