

1 [Health Code - Designating Fire Department Paramedics to Initiate 5150 Holds]

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3 **Ordinance amending the Health Code to designate all certified and accredited**
4 **paramedics employed by the Fire Department to initiate temporary psychiatric holds,**
5 **subject to state law procedures and requirements adopted by the county behavioral**
6 **health director; and require that the Fire Department and Department of Public Health**
7 **ensure that designated Fire Department paramedics receive all appropriate training.**

8 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
9 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
10 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.
11 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.
12 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
13 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code
14 subsections or parts of tables.

15 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

16 Section 1. Division I of Article 41 of the Health Code is hereby amended by adding
17 Section 4103, to read as follows:

18 **SEC. 4103. DESIGNATION OF SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT PARAMEDICS**
19 **TO INITIATE 5150 PSYCHIATRIC HOLDS.**

20 *(a) The City and County of San Francisco (the "City") designates all employees of the San*
21 *Francisco Fire Department (the "Fire Department") who (1) are certified by the state of California as*
22 *EMT-Ps or paramedics under Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, (2) are accredited*
23 *by the City's Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) as paramedics, and (3) meet all*
24 *applicable procedural requirements adopted by the county behavioral health director under Section*
25 *5121 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code, to initiate temporary psychiatric holds under*
Section 5150 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code upon a finding of probable cause to

1 initiate such holds under the criteria set forth in that section, and subject to all other requirements of
2 that section for initiating such holds.

3 (b) The Fire Department and the Department of Public Health shall ensure that all individuals
4 designated to initiate temporary psychiatric holds under subsection (a) receive all appropriate training,
5 consistent with state and City law, regarding proper procedures in the initiation of temporary
6 psychiatric holds under Section 5150 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.

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8 Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
9 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
10 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
11 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

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13 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
14 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

15 By: /S/ Sarah A. Crowley
16 SARAH A. CROWLEY
Deputy City Attorney

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