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ConFire Joins Forces with AMR

By Nick Marnell

Jeff Carman, fire chief of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, announced March 12 that the district will enter into a partnership with American Medical Response to provide a joint fire and ambulance emergency medical service delivery system. Carman said that the two entities will construct an operating agreement and simultaneously develop a bid for the available county ambulance contract. AMR holds the current ambulance contract, which expires at the end of this year. "This type of system is very innovative and has many advantages for the agencies involved, the public and the EMS system," said Carman (see March 11 article, "ConFire Seeks Public-Private Ambulance Partnership"). "We are very excited about the discussions we have had with AMR and look forward to working with their staff. Of course the final products must be approved by the board before moving forward, but we feel confident the directors will see the obvious benefits of this unique arrangement." The Moraga-Orinda Fire District provides its own ambulance service, which will not be affected either by this agreement or by the new county ambulance contract.

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