



## AMBULANCE STRIKE TEAM

|                          |  |  |   |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b>       | The Ambulance Strike Team is a group of five ambulances of the same type, either Advanced Life Support (ALS) or Basic Life Support (BLS), with common communications and a leader in a separate command vehicle. This team provides an operational group of ambulances complete with a supervisory element for organization command and control. |  |   |
| <b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b> | Emergency Medical Services (EMS)   | <b>RESOURCE KIND</b>                           | Team  |
| <b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>  | The Ambulance Strike Team comprises EMS personnel that provide out-of-hospital emergency medical care, evacuation, and transportation services   | <b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This team works up to 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>2. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>3. Request a minimum of four persons per ambulance for staffing to meet the two-personnel minimum and to provide for crew rest if the ambulance is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week</li> <li>4. Request a minimum of six personnel for each ambulance if an operation may last five or more days</li> <li>5. The quantity of ground ambulances needed depends on the nature of the mission, logistics, intensity of demand, duration of service activity, and allowance for rest periods</li> <li>6. Requestor can order additional personnel to ensure the ongoing availability of resources to support the mission assignment safely and effectively</li> <li>7. Support elements such as logistics and maintenance are necessary if there are 11 personnel, for example if there are two crew members per ambulance and only one person for lead responsibilities</li> <li>8. Refer to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Typed Ambulance (Ground) EMS Team for staffing of individual ALS or BLS ambulances</li> </ol> |

| RESOURCE TYPES |                 |                          | TYPE 1  | TYPE 2         | TYPE 3         | TYPE 4                                       |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|--|
| COMPONENT      | METRIC/ MEASURE | CAPABILITY               |   |                |                |  |
| Personnel      | Per team        | Minimum                  | Same as Type 2<br><b>NOTES:</b> Not Specified | Same as Type 3 | Same as Type 4 | 11   |
| Personnel      | Per team        | Management and oversight | Same as Type 2<br><b>NOTES:</b> Not Specified | Same as Type 3 | Same as Type 4 | 1 – NIMS Type 1 Ambulance Strike Team Leader |

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| RESOURCE TYPES |                 |                                     | TYPE 1  | TYPE 2   | TYPE 3  | TYPE 4  |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| COMPONENT      | METRIC/ MEASURE | CAPABILITY                          |   |  |   |   |
| Personnel      | Per unit        | Support                             | Same as Type 2  | 5 – NIMS Type 1 Paramedic<br>5 – NIMS Type 1 Ambulance Operator  | Same as Type 4  | 5 – NIMS Type 1 Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)<br>5 – NIMS Type 2 Ambulance Operator  |
|                |                 |                                     | <b>NOTES:</b> Types 1 and 2 are ALS capable and Types 3 and 4 are BLS capable ambulances.     |  |   |   |
| Resource       | Per resource    | Life support                        | Same as Type 2  | ALS  | Same as Type 4  | BLS   |
|                |                 |                                     | <b>NOTES:</b> Not Specified   |  |   |   |
| Vehicle        | Per team        | Transportation                      | 5 – NIMS Type 1 Ambulance (Ground)<br>1 – Command vehicle                                     | 5 – NIMS Type 2 Ambulance (Ground)<br>1 – Command vehicle  | 5 – NIMS Type 3 Ambulance (Ground)<br>1 – Command vehicle   | 5 – NIMS Type 4 Ambulance (Ground)<br>1 – Command vehicle   |
|                |                 |                                     | <b>NOTES:</b> Types 1 and 2 are ALS capable and Types 3 and 4 are BLS capable ambulances.     |  |   |   |
| Equipment      | Per team        | Patient care                        | Same as Type 2  | Same as Type 3, <b>PLUS:</b><br>1. Advanced ventilation and airway equipment<br>2. Monitoring and defibrillation equipment<br>3. Intravenous (IV) supplies and solutions<br>4. Medications | Same as Type 4  | 1. Basic ventilation and airway equipment<br>2. Immobilization devices<br>3. Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)<br>4. Dressings and bandages<br>5. Patient restraints |
|                |                 |                                     | <b>NOTES:</b> Each response or mission may need additional specialized equipment or supplies. |  |   |   |
| Equipment      | Per team        | Personal protective equipment (PPE) | Same as Type 2  | Same as Type 3   | Same as Type 4, <b>PLUS:</b><br>Range of supplies commensurate with the mission assignment, including PPE appropriate to the Level B hazardous material (HAZMAT) threat | PPE consistent with OSHA regulations  |



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| RESOURCE TYPES |                 |                | TYPE 1  | TYPE 2         | TYPE 3         | TYPE 4  |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|---|
| COMPONENT      | METRIC/ MEASURE | CAPABILITY     |   |                |                |   |
|                |                 |                | <p><b>NOTES:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PPE is mission-specific and varies with the working environment. PPE includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and hearing protection, respirators, gloves, and masks.</li> <li>2. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910.134 and 1910.1030 address PPE requirements.</li> <li>3. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 471, 472, 473 and OSHA CFR 29 1910.120 address HAZMAT.</li> </ol> |                |                |   |
| Equipment      | Per unit        | Communications | Same as Type 2  | Same as Type 3 | Same as Type 4 | 11 – Portable radios, programmable or on-incident frequencies<br>11 – Cellular phones |
|                |                 |                | <p><b>NOTES:</b> Requestor should verify interoperability of ambulance communications equipment and plan for augmenting existing communications equipment.</p>  |                |                |   |



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### COMMENTS

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1. Environmental considerations for temperature control in patient care compartment and pharmaceutical storage may be necessary for locations with excessive ranges in temperature.
2. Decontamination supplies and support may be necessary for incidents with potential threats to responding personnel and equipment and when transporting infectious patients.
3. Communications capabilities should support communications both en route and at scene, and with all other units under the leader's supervision. Mobility and coordination of tactical support of the Ambulance Strike Team necessitates a separate command vehicle for the leader.
4. Immunizations as outlined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control's recommended adult immunization schedule for the United States of America.

### REFERENCE

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1. FEMA, NIMS 508-3: Ambulance Team (Ground)
2. FEMA, NIMS 509-3: Ambulance Operator
3. FEMA, NIMS 509-3: Emergency Medical Responder
4. FEMA, NIMS 509-3: Emergency Medical Technician
5. FEMA, NIMS 509-3: Paramedic
6. FEMA, NIMS 509-3: Ambulance Strike Team Leader
7. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 471: Recommended Practice for Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents, 2002
8. NFPA 472: Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents, 2013
9. NFPA 473: Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents, 2013
10. 29 CFR Part 1910.120 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Hazardous Materials Awareness
11. 29 CFR Part 1910.134 OSHA, Respiratory Protection
12. 29 CFR Part 1910.1030 OSHA, Bloodborne Pathogens
13. American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma et al., Equipment for Ambulances, October/December 2013

### NOTE

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Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

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