

ORDINANCE NO. 180187

An ordinance approving a resolution of the Board of Transportation Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles, designated as Board Order No. 591, adopted April 24, 2008, fixing rates and charges for private ambulance service in the City of Los Angeles.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The resolution of the Board of Transportation Commissioners designated as Board Order No. 587 and its implementing ordinance are hereby rescinded and superseded by the resolution of the Board of Transportation Commissioners adopted on April 24, 2008, designated as Board Order No. 591, establishing and prescribing the legal rates to be charged by all private ambulance companies in the City of Los Angeles, and these rates are hereby approved, as provided in Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.484 as follows:

Base Rate

Response to call with equipment and personnel at a basic life support (BLS) level	\$496.75
Response to call with equipment and personnel for use of a paramedic ambulance at an advanced life support (ALS) level when requested by a patient or authorized representative	\$799.50

Mileage Rate

Each mile or fraction of a mile	\$ 15.00
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Time Rate

Waiting Time: Elapsed time other than standby time necessitated by conditions beyond control of the operator at the loading and/or discharge points.

For each 15-minute period or major fraction of the period after an initial 15-minute period	\$ 39.50
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Standby Time: Elapsed time an ambulance is hired to stand at a particular special event or other location for service as needed. For pre-scheduled special events, standby service is arranged at least 24 hours in advance. Other standby services result from requests for an ambulance arising from unanticipated events. The "Standby Time" charge is the "Base Rate" (BLS or ALS) for the

applicable level of service and, in addition, the following rate for each 15-minute period or major fraction of the period after the first 15 minutes of "Standby Time":

Basic Ambulance (BLS).....	\$ 34.50
Paramedic Ambulance (ALS)	\$ 34.75

Special Charges

- a. Night Service: Each patient provided service after 7 P.M. and before 7 A.M. \$ 67.50
- b. Individuals requiring oxygen shall be subject to a maximum charge of..... \$ 59.75
- c. An emergency call requiring an immediate response and the use of red lights and siren \$ 89.50
- d. Services of a Critical Care Nurse\$170.50/hr
- e. Services of a Respiratory Therapist\$183.25/3 hrs and \$74.25/hr after 3 hrs
- f. Use of a Pulse Oximeter..... \$ 58.75
- g. Use of a Volume Ventilator.....\$139.50
- h. Use of an Infusion Pump (per line)\$ 61.50
- i. Medical Supplies Replacement Cost
- j. Where other special services are requested by a patient or his/her authorized representative, a reasonable charge commensurate with the cost of furnishing the special service may be made, provided that each permitted ambulance operator shall file with the Board a schedule of each special service proposed and the charge for the service; the schedule shall become effective upon approval by the Board or as modified or restricted by the Board; these special charges shall be itemized on each bill and statement rendered by the permittee. No special charge shall be made other than those filed with and approved by the Board. The Department shall not recommend to the Board any special charge for services, which was included in the schedule of rates authorized in this ordinance.

Additional Patients

- a. Fifty percent of the "Base Rate," "Mileage Rate" and "Night Service" charge for one patient shall be added for each additional patient. Other "Special Charges" shall be made as authorized by this ordinance.
- b. For group loads from same origin to same destination, a single charge shall be made each for the "Base Rate," "Mileage Rate," "Waiting Time Rate" and "Night Service." The total of these rates and charges shall be divided equally among the patients. Other "Special Charges" shall be made as authorized by this ordinance.

Reduced Rates

Rates and charges 25 percent less than established in this ordinance shall be charged for ambulance service by any operator upon requisition stating the patient's name, and inability to pay established rates, and signed by the attending physician, social worker or authorized representative of the hospital, charitable institution or clinic. The requisitions, together with a record of charges computed under approved rates and charges actually made, shall be kept available and open for inspection at all times by representatives of the Board of Transportation Commissioners.

Rebates

It shall be unlawful for any ambulance operator to give directly or indirectly, or cause to be given, any rebates, commissions, reserve rebates, or any reduced rates or cash discounts to any person, or persons, or groups of any nature, except as provided in this ordinance or which may be authorized by the Board by regulation.

Total Charge

Non-Standby Service: The total charge shall be the sum of the appropriate "Base Rate" plus the "Mileage Rate" applied to the distance actually traveled with patient or patients, plus the "Time Rate" applied to requested or necessary waiting time, plus any "Special Charges" that apply. All rates are to be computed from the time the ambulance arrives for hire until the ambulance is discharged by the patient or his/her authorized representative.

Standby Service: The total charge per ambulance shall be the sum of the appropriate "Base Rate" and "Standby Time" rate applied to the requested standby time, plus any "Special Charges" applied to any special services provided by the operator and requested by the person or organization hiring standby service. The "Standby Time Rate" shall be computed from 15 minutes after the time the ambulance arrives at the requested location or 15 minutes after

the time standby service was requested to commence, whichever is later, until the time the ambulance leaves the standby location, with or without a patient, or until the ambulance is discharged by an authorized representative of the person or organization requesting standby service, whichever occurs first. In the event the ambulance is required to leave the standby location and returns to complete the standby service assignment at a later time, a second "Base Rate" charge shall not be made.

If another ambulance is required to report because of transportation of a patient, the "Standby Time Rate" charge per 15 minutes shall not be interrupted and a second "Base Rate" charge shall not be made.

The charge for transportation of a patient shall be separate from and in addition to the "Base Rate" and "Standby Time Rate" charges.

Applicability

The permittee shall not levy any rate or charge for private ambulance trips originating in the City of Los Angeles other than authorized in this ordinance.

The foregoing rates and charges shall comprise the total of the permittee's service authorized by permit granted by the City of Los Angeles.

Statement on Bills

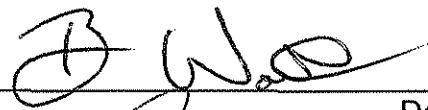
Each bill for service rendered given to the customer shall contain a statement that complaints may be referred to the Department of Transportation, 100 S. Main St., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012, telephone (213) 928-9600.

Sec. 2. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of the resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine or not more than \$1,000.00, by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed 180 days, or by both fine and imprisonment.


Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of SEP 02 2008.

KAREN E. KALFAYAN, City Clerk

By  Deputy

Approved SEP 11 2008

 Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By claudia culling for
SHELLEY I. SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

Date 5/22/08

File No. 07-2832