

ORDINANCE NO. 183310

An ordinance approving a resolution of the Board of Transportation Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles, designated as Board Order No. 603, adopted May 8, 2014, 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the Board of Transportation Commissioners designated as Board Order No. 601 and its implementing ordinance are hereby rescinded and superceded by the resolution of the Board of Transportation Commissioners adopted on May 8, 2014, designated as Board Order No. 603, establishing and prescribing the legal rates to be charged by all private ambulance companies in the City of Los Angeles, and the said rates are hereby approved, as provided in Section 22.484 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code as follows:

Base Rate

Response to call with equipment and personnel at a Basic Life Support (BLS) level .....\$722.00

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 .....\$1,130.75

Mileage Rate

Each mile or fraction thereof .....\$18.50

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 thereof after an initial 15-minute period .....\$45.00

Standby Time: Elapsed time an ambulance is hired to standby 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 service results 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 thereof after the first 15 minutes of "Standby Time":

Basic Ambulance (BLS) .....	\$41.25
Paramedic Ambulance (ALS) .....	\$41.50

Special Charges

- a. Night Service: Each patient provided service after 7:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. ....\$77.75
- b. Individuals requiring oxygen shall be subject to a maximum charge of .....\$74.50
- c. An emergency call requiring an immediate response and the use of red lights and siren .....\$105.25
- d. Services of a Critical Care Nurse .....\$203.00/hr.
- e. Services of a Respiratory Therapist .....\$213.75/3 hrs. and .....\$91.50/hr. after 3 hrs.
- f. Use of a Pulse Oximeter .....\$70.75
- g. Use of a Volume Ventilator .....\$172.00
- h. Use of an Infusion Pump (per line) .....\$76.75
- 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 such 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 thereof; 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 that 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 the same origin to the 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 herein established 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 hospital, charitable institution or clinic. Said 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 herein 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 a patient or patients, plus the "Time Rate" applied to requested or necessary waiting time, plus any "Special Charges" which 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 herein.

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 Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012, telephone (213) 928-9600.

Sec. 2. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of said resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000, by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed 180 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.