

## Policy and Procedures

*Title:* Entry cannot be gained to an Emergency Scene

*Date issued / last revision:* September 1, 2002

*Date effective:* Immediately

# Entry cannot be gained to an Emergency Scene

*Statement:*

Cooperstown Medical Transport, Inc. (CMT) is outlining the responsibilities of field providers if placed in the given situation.

*Purpose:*

To ensure compliance of CMT with NYSDOH part 800.21.12.ii, and limit the liability of CMT.

*Scope:*

This policy applies to all employees, full time, part time, interns and observers.

*Policy:*

1. When EMS crews arrive on the scene and they are unable to gain entry to a patient due to one or more of the following circumstances, they will follow the criteria below:
  - a. Unable to gain entry to a residence, due to all means of entry are secured by door locks, window locks, etc.
    - i. CMT's dispatch center will be notified and a request for a law enforcement agency to respond to the scene.
    - ii. Upon arrival of the law enforcement agency, they will assist with and/or authorize forcible entry.
      - A. Forcible entry may be initiated prior to law enforcement arrival if you reasonably believe the patient is in the residence (i.e. dispatch information, can see the patient, etc.), the scene is safe and a delay in providing care may not be in the patient's best interest.
    - iii. The local Fire Department may be called by dispatch to assist with any forcible entry.
    - iv. Entry is only forced as the absolute last resort.
      - A. If a CMT crew forces entry, a supervisor will be contacted.
  - b. In the event you are unable to gain entry due to potential or obvious structural damage or a risk of injury may occur, CMT's dispatch center will be notified and a request for the nearest Fire Department, or other resources, to be dispatched to the scene will be made.