

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THEFT OF HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT TRAILER SEVERLY IMPACTS RIVERSIDE COUNTY READINESS

Medical Support Equipment Designated to Aid Hospitals

Riverside County, CA – A medical equipment trailer used to aid hospitals in times of disasters was taken from a secure location between the hours of 5:30pm, Thursday evening and 7:00am Friday morning in the Arlington area of the City of Riverside.

This medical equipment trailer was scheduled for deployment to a strategic location to support hospitals in Riverside County when it was found missing. The 16 foot, white trailer with the number 45 printed on all sides contains a variety of life saving support equipment and is a key component in the County's efforts in protecting its residents against disasters of all nature. The trailer's inventory included; personal protective equipment for County first responders and hospital personnel, motor powered generators, decontamination equipment, and personal need items such as bottled water for the responders. "This trailer is critical to the County's medical preparedness and response efforts. The longer we do not have it, the more vulnerable our County becomes," said Kim Saruwatari, Chief, Riverside County Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Branch.

This trailer and its contents are valued at \$95,000 and was purchased through funds from Federal Disaster Preparedness grants. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of this trailer please contact the City of Riverside Police Department at (951) 787-7911.

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