

# DMAT San Diego CA-4

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## Team Résumé

**DMAT San Diego CA-4** is a deployable Level 1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team, affiliated with the National Disaster Medical System, Rockville, Maryland. DMAT San Diego CA-4 is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation, EIN# 33-0814611. It is a public benefit corporation, registered with the Registry of Charitable Trusts, State of California, Certificate number CT-114861.

**Date of creation:** The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UCSD Medical Center, in conjunction with the Naval Hospital of San Diego (The Federal Coordination Center, San Diego Region), and the National Disaster Medical System was signed July 19, 1991. Signers: Michael Stringer, Director of Hospitals and Clinics, UCSD Medical Center, and Tom Reutershan, Director, NDMS. Founding Team Commander: Jake Jacoby, MD.

A new MOU was signed on May 17, 1999, adding International Relief Teams as a second sponsor, and merging DMAT CA-8, a public health specialty team formerly sponsored by International Relief Teams, into CA-4. Signers were Sumiyo Kastelic, Director of Hospitals, UCSD Medical Center, Barry La Forgia, Director of International Relief Teams.

**Co-Sponsors:** UCSD Medical Center, 200 West Arbor Drive, San Diego, California 92103 (1991-present) and International Relief Teams, 3547-C Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108-4024 (1999-present).

**Operations Center:** Address: 8830-G Rehco Road, San Diego, CA 92121. Tel. 858-824-0511, FAX 858-824-0611. Consists of Warehouse, Training Room, Disaster Specialty Library, Offices. Moved in July 1, 2003.

## Federal Activations, Team Responses

1. **Northridge Earthquake**, Northridge, CA 26-person team activated Jan. 17, 1994. Response missions and sites: Staff relief at Granada Hills Community Hospital, Jan 18-21, 1994. Outpatient clinic for homeless at Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Clinic, Van Nuys, CA, Jan 21-22, 1994.

2. **Centennial Summer Olympics**, Atlanta, GA, Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia. Four 5- person strike teams responded for weeklong deployments, pre-staging event. Ongoing training in chemical and biological warfare responses. July-August, 1996.

3. **Northern California Floods**, Yuba County, CA, Team of 25 deployed, response cancelled while boarding flight at Los Alamitos National Guard Base, CA. Jan 1-2, 1997.

4. **Grand Forks, North Dakota Flood/Red River of the North**, April 20-28, 1997. Flooding caused evacuation of almost entire city of Grand Forks (48,000 evacuees). Response missions and sites: First Aid Station, Three Bays Hangar-Shelter;

Augmentation, Emergency Dept., Grand Forks Air Force Base Hospital; "Sick Bay" for Disaster Workers, Nathan F. Twining Middle School, GFAFB, Grand Forks, ND; Hospital staff relief and augmentation, Towner County Medical Center, Cando, North Dakota. April 20-28, 1997.

**5. Hurricane Georges:** Sept. 26, 1998 to October 11, 1998.

2 missions: Response missions and sites: Full team staging at Barksdale Air Force Base, Shreveport, Louisiana, Sept 26-30, 1998; team returned home. Smaller contingent of 9 performed hospital and EMS Staff Relief, Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital Medical Center, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, October 2-11, 1998.

**6. Hurricane Bret:** August 22-24, 1999.

Team prestaged in San Antonio, Texas for Category 4 storm in the Gulf, threatening Corpus Christi, TX. Storm went ashore in unpopulated areas of southern Texas, no medical missions requested by state, and team was demobilized.

**7. U.S. PHS Region X Deployment Exercise in conjunction with the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference:** November 27-December 4, 1999. Participated in a week long exercise, with WA-1, CA-6, and the West Coast NMRT; scheduled Strike Teams for assignment with FBI, and remained pre-staged for WMD events during the WTO Conference.

**8. Democratic National Convention:** August 12-18, 2000. Team contributed 12 members to a statewide DMAT deployed to Los Angeles for establishment of pre-staged Federal response during DNC.

**9. World Trade Center Terrorist Attacks of September 11th, New York City:** Sept. thru November, 2001. Team deployed a total of 26 members at various times: 1 member worked with the NDMS Mission Support Team September 22 to October 4, 2001 as a communications officer. 3 members augmented the CA-2 DMAT deployed Sept 23 to October 3, 2001 at Ground Zero clinics.. 2 members deployed October 20 to November 2, 2001 to assist in the NYC Medical Examiner's Office and the DMORT deployment. A team of 20 CA-4 members deployed to participate in the deployment at Ground Zero, from Nov 13 to 21, 2001, caring for injured and ill recovery workers, disaster responders, and other workers at Ground Zero. DMAT completed the Federal operations at the site.

**10. Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympics.** One Medical Strike Team of 5 members were deployed to Salt Lake City, UT Feb. 5th to Feb. 16, 2002 as part of the Federal pre-staging response for the Olympics. Team based in SLC, with three days of coverage for Snowbasin venue events at Hill Air Force Base, UT. 1 communications officer deployed to MST Feb. 17 to 25, 2002.

**11. Super Typhoon Pongsona, Guam, USMI.** Category 5 storm caused major infrastructure damage to Guam Memorial Hospital, which was unable to provide emergency services. Team of 32 was activated on Dec.9, 2002, loaded cargo aircraft, Dec 11th, and departed San Diego early Thursday, Dec. 12, 2002, arrived in Guam Dec. 13th. Set up a Health Care Clinic in a tent at the Micronesia Mall. In 7 days of activities, saw 933 patients, and filled over 1,000 prescriptions., had over 30 critical care transports. 1 pharmacist augmented the Ohio - 1 DMAT on southern side of the island. Team augmented by 5 persons from MA-1 IMSURT. Returned Dec 23, 2002.

**12. Hurricane Dennis.** July 8 thru July 13, 2005. Category 3 storm that came ashore at Pensacola, FL. Team of 33 was prestaged at Meridian Naval Air Station, Meridian, MS. Activated 7/8/05 at 1300 hours PDT, flew to Memphis, TN on 7/9/05, overnighted there, then proceeded by bus to Jackson, MS, cars rented and driven to Meridian NAS. 5 other members joined team via

direct flight from SD to Jackson, MS on 7/10. Cache was from MO-1 DMAT, 13 persons from their team also staged with us. No mission assignment for our team and we were demobilized late on July 12, flight home on July 13, 2005.

13. **Hurricane Katrina.** August 29 through Sept. 9, 2005. Category 4 storm that came ashore between New Orleans and Biloxi, MS, morning of August 29, 2005, causing break in levees holding back Lake Pontchartrain. Extensive flooding of 90% of City of New Orleans. Team was activated as pre-staging event on 8/28/05, logistics group of 6 departed SD in trucks with cache, and rest of team of 30 departed to Houston 8/29/05, traveled to Baton Rouge and assigned night of 8/30 to New Orleans Airport, arrived 0300 hours and along with WA-1 and TX-3 DMATs, set up triage, treatment and MEDEVAC site at Airport. Airport operation saw >3,500 medical patients by morning of 9/7/05. Team demobilized on 9/8 and arrived home in San Diego on 9/9/05. 3 members extended deployment, 4 more deployed; and 6 of those 7 worked at West Jefferson Medical Center until 9/28/05. Additional member deployed for Tropical Storm Ophelia during this deployment. Additional rotations for 2 MDs, 1 PA and 4 Pharmacists to: Belle Chasse, LA, St Bernard Island Refinery, and Chalmette, LA. One member of team augmented Strike team for 2 days to Cameron, LA.

14. **Tropical Storm Ernesto.** August 28 thru September 1, 2006. Team of 33 members deployed for pre-staging mission, to Atlanta, GA. No mission assignments, as storm, which did transiently become a hurricane, changed course and did not enter the Gulf of Mexico from the Caribbean, but instead became disorganized after striking Haiti and Cuba, unable to strengthen prior to landfall in Florida; then emerged into Atlantic, came ashore in North Carolina as tropical storm. Cache ordered to travel by flatbed trucks, some damage occurred during shipment east, had to go to Frederick, MD for rehabbing, returned mid-September, 2006.

15. **San Diego Wildfire 2007:** October 24 to November 7, 2007. 6 logistics people designated as truck drivers activated to evacuate our Warehouse/Operations Center, relocate trucks to safer site. Team of 40 rostered for use in Wildfire. 6 were federally activated as Logistics Support Unit, to utilize the DMAT CA-4 cache to support two other DMATs (NM-1, WA-1) from out of state which were activated and on Oct 24 and arrived Oct 25th, CA-1 cache also arrived from Orange County. Initially separate, but were co-located at DMAT Ops Center, and supplies used to support multiple medical evaluation teams deployed to tribal clinics in north and south county areas and shelters to perform medical assessments. One Pharmacist and one Pharmacy Technician were also activated to pull expired drugs out of the cache and replace with current unexpired medications. Total of 13 members activated federally during event. 2 additional members activated as part of the CALMAT state deployment.

### **Federal Activations, Individual Personnel, less than full-team response:**

1. **Operation Provide Refuge:** Provision of health care to Kosovo refugees, Ft. Dix, New Jersey. Individual personnel only ( 1 MD, 1 Paramedic, 1 Medical Officer for MST). June-July, 1999.

2. **Alaska Airlines Flight #261 Crash,** off Point Mugu, CA, February 29, 2000. Response site at Port Huaneme Navy Base, CA. Individual personnel activated and deployed in support of MST and DMORT operations, February-March, 2000. (1 RN, 1 Communications Officer)

3. **Tropical Storm Allison:** Houston, TX. June 2001. One RN deployed to assist at Trauma Center, following severe flooding in Houston, TX.

4. **Avian Influenza Epizootic:** Harrisonburg, Virginia, May through August, 2002. 6 EMTs deployed to support VMATs, as veterinary technicians for up to 6 weeks each.

5. **Hurricane Ivan,** Southeastern US. 4 team members deployed individually either with FEMA or with MST, November, 2004.

6. **Hurricane Rita**, Texas. 7 members of DMAT CA-4 deployed as part of the National Veterinary Response Team ( NVRT-4).

### **Local Activities:**

1. **Republican National Convention**, San Diego, CA, August 1996. Stand-by 5 person Medical Strike Teams supplied in conjunction with the County of San Diego Dept. of Health and Human Services, Division of Emergency Medical Services, scheduled 24 hours a day for 7 days.

2. **Hospital Bed Surge Capacity Study**, San Diego County - \$51,200. Service Contract awarded, August 2002, San Diego County Dept. of Health and Human Services, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Medical Response Division.

3. **Hospital Bed Surge Capacity Hospital Training Program**, San Diego County, - \$45,000. Service Contract Award. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Medical Response Division. 2nd year follow-on grant to give training sessions to all hospitals in San Diego County in preparation for HRSA funding request submissions, August 2003.

4. **Pines Fire, San Diego County, CA, August 2002.** 6 Personnel worked 24 hour shifts at the Fire Base Camp, in conjunction with CA-6/ CA Dept. of Forestry. Patient care provided.

5. **Coyote Fire, San Diego County, CA August 2003.** 4 personnel worked various shifts at Fire Base Camp in Conjunction with CA-6/CA Dept of Forestry. Patient care provided.

6 **Sold Fire, Cedar Fire, Paradise Fire, San Diego and San Bernardino County Wildfires, 2003:** Old Fire (San Bernardino), Cedar and Paradise Fires, San Diego County. 8 team members assigned for 24 hours up to 7 days at these Fire Camp Medical support Units, organized by CA-6 on statewide basis, October 28-November 4, 2003.

7. **San Diego Wildfires, October-November 2007.** In addition to Federal deployment, 2 members responded as part of the State CALMAT response, and 15 others volunteered on their own, at Qualcomm Stadium and Del Mar Fairgrounds shelters.

### **First aid stations:**

1. **El Toro Air Show**, El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA , 1996. Augmentation of First Aid Station run by CA-1, patient care provided.

2. First Aid Station, US Triathlon Association, Oceanside Triathlon. Sponsored by Quintana Roo, Oceanside, CA, May 31-June 1, 1997. Patient care provided.

3. First Annual "Fleet Week Celebration", First Aid Stations, Downtown San Diego and Harbor Island, July 25, 1997. Patient care provided.

4. First Aid Station, US Triathlon Association, Oceanside Triathlon. Sponsored by Bally Total Fitness and Quintana Roo, Oceanside, CA, June 7, 1998. Patient care provided.

5. First Aid Station, US Triathlon Association Triathlon, Oceanside, CA, sponsored by Bally Total Fitness and Quintana Roo, October 24-25, 1998. Patient care provided.

6. First Aid Station, US Triathlon Association Triathlon, Oceanside, CA, sponsored by Bally Total Fitness and Quintana Roo, June 12-13, 1999. Patient care provided.

7. First Aid Station, US Triathlon Association Triathlon, Oceanside, CA, sponsored by Bally Total Fitness and Quintana Roo, October 9-10, 1999. Patient care provided.

### **Exercises:**

1) "Operation Rough 'n Ready," Camp Roberts, CA, August 1992, sponsored by State of CA EMS Authority

2) Miramar Naval Air Station Multi-Casualty Exercise, August 1992. Patient tracking

exercise with DMAT CA-1, U.S. Navy and Joint Medical Regulating Office, Scott AFB, IL at Miramar NAS.

3) USS Peleliu (LHA) orientation/training tour, Long Beach, CA

4) North Island NAS Back Safety & Litter Bearer Training, Sept. 1993, organized by DMAT CA-4

5) "Operation Glowing Valley," San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), San Onofre, CA, 1994, organized by DMAT CA-4. A 3-day toxic substance, hazardous materials and radiation contamination earthquake scenario, for all DMATs in the state.

6) "Operation Rough 'n' Ready," Camp Roberts, CA, April 1995, sponsored by State of CA EMS Authority.

7) USS Boxer (LHD) training/orientation cruise, Long Beach to San Diego, 1995.

8) Winter '96 "Cold Weather" Exercise, Silverwood Lake, CA, January 1996

9) "Operation San Diego Joint Response," a demonstration Terrorism/HAZMAT exercise in conjunction with the San Diego Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team, the SD Environmental Response Team, and the San Diego Fire Department, as part of the Annual Meeting, National Disaster Medical System, San Diego, CA, April 1996. Other participants included DMAT CA-1 (Orange County), DMAT CA-2 (San Bernardino) and local ambulance agencies.

10) "Operation Rough and Ready '96," a joint California statewide DMAT exercise, Los Alamitos Armed Forces Reserve Base, sponsored by State of CA EMS Authority, December 12-15, 1996.

11) Winter '98 "Cold Weather" Exercise, Lake Silverwood State Park, CA, February 1998.

12) "Westwind '99" Weapons of Mass Destruction Exercise, Van Nuys, CA, February 1999. Observers sent.

13.) Winter '99 Exercise, "Back to Basics," Lake Silverwood State Park, March 1999.

14.) "Operation Rough and Ready '99," a joint California statewide DMAT and West Coast NMRT exercise, earthquake scenario with hazardous materials component, El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA, April 23-25, 1999.

15.) "Operation Rough and Ready 2000," a joint disaster exercise sponsored by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) State Partnerships for Peace Program, linking CA National Guard, State of CA EMS Authority, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Government of Ukraine, and the Ukrainian Air Force, with State of CA DMATs. Held at Chuguyiv Air Base, outside Kharkiv, Ukraine, May 14-21, 2000.

16.) "Operation Rough and Ready 2001," a statewide disaster exercise for DMATs, sponsored by the State of CA EMS Authority, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, CA, April 2001.

17.) "Operation Rough and Ready 2002," a statewide disaster exercise for DMATs, sponsored by the State of CA EMS Authority, Orange County Fair and Campgrounds.

18.) Joint Training Exercise, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Readiness Force (CCRF)/DMAT San Diego CA-4. U.S. Navy Submarine Base Point Loma (NSBPL)/Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center, San Diego, 18 CA-4 Team members instructed new members and 53 USPHS CCRF member candidates in medical and field response capabilities of a DMAT, including biomedical equipment, litter bearer training and tent management. August 4-5, 2003

19.) "Operation Back to Basics 2003," a statewide disaster exercise for CA and other new invited DMATs, sponsored by the State of CA EMS Authority, March Air Reserve Base, Riverside, CA, Oct. 24-26, 2003.

20.) "BATREX 2004," a team-organized and executed BASic TRaining EXercise, San Diego First Responder Regional Training Center, San Diego Fire Dept., San Diego, CA, June 25-27, 2004.

21.) "Operation Rough and Ready - Ukraine 2004." a joint disaster exercise sponsored by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) State Partnerships for Peace Program, linking CA National Guard, State of CA EMS Authority, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Government of Ukraine, and the Ukrainian Air Force, with State of CA DMATs. Held in Lviv, Ukraine, August 4-10, 2004.

22.) "Operation Rough and Ready - 2005," a statewide disaster exercise for all CA and

other selected new DMATs, sponsored by the State of CA EMS Authority, Los Alamitos Joint Force Training Base, Los Alamitos, CA, March 2005.

23.) "MOBEX 2005," a joint disaster exercise held at a building site collapse simulation at the shuttered El Cajon Valley Hospital, El Cajon, CA. Organized by the San Diego Urban Search & Rescue CA-Task Force-8, with participation by the Riverside County US&R CA-TF-6. 35 person DMAT team activated and deployed to site, June 24-26, 2005.

24.) "Operation Rough and Ready - 2006," a statewide disaster exercise for all FEMA Region IX DMATs, organized by the State of CA EMS Authority, sponsored by the National Disaster Medical System. Moffett Air Station/NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, CA, May 4-7, 2006; with pre-exercise MST Training, May 2-4, 2006. 43 Team members participated.

25.) .) "Operation Rough and Ready - 2005," 45 team members participated in a statewide federal disaster exercise for all Region IX DMATs, sponsored by the State of CA EMS Authority, Los Alamitos Joint Force Training Base, Los Alamitos, CA, August 2007.

Team Awards received:

1. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to DMAT CA-4 by National Disaster Medical System, for performance of duty during Northridge Earthquake Response, 1994.
2. "Commendation," presented by the Mayor of San Diego Susan Golding, for response to Northridge Earthquake, 1994.
3. "Certificate of Appreciation," awarded by the 146th Aeromedical Evacuation Wing, California Air National Guard, for "contributing to success of Operation Rough and Ready '95, Camp Roberts, CA."
4. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to DMAT CA-4, awarded by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance in response to Flood, Grand Forks, North Dakota, April 1997.
5. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to DMAT CA-4 by National Disaster Medical System, for performance of duty in preparation for Floods , Yuba County, California, January, 1997.
6. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Hurricane Georges Response, Sept.-Oct. 1998.
7. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during Operation Provide Refuge, Ft. Dix, NJ, 1999.
8. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Hurricane Bret Response, San Antonio, TX, Aug 1999.
9. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the World Trade Organization Conference, Nov.-Dec, 1999.
10. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Alaska Airlines Crash Response, Feb-March 2000.
11. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical

System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Democratic National Convention, Los Angeles, CA, Aug. 2000.

12. "Commendation" of DMAT San Diego CA-4 "for outstanding service, leadership and commitment to the community and the general well-being of area residents," by Proclamation of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors honoring Emergency Preparedness Month, presented by Chairman Bill Horn, signed by Greg Cox, Dianne Jacob, Pam Slater, Ron Roberts and Bill Horn, Supervisors, 1st through 5th Districts, April 3, 2001.

13. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during Tropical Storm Allison, Houston, Texas, Summer, 2001.

14. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks on America, New York City, Sept 25 to Oct 6, 2001, and Nov. 12 to November 21, 2001.

15. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, February 2002.

16. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty during the Avian Influenza Outbreak, State of Virginia, Summer 2002.

17. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty following Super Typhoon Pongsona, Guam, December 2002.

18. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by FEMA/National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty following Hurricane Dennis, July 2005.

19. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by FEMA/National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty following Hurricane Katrina, August-September 2005.

20. "Outstanding Service Award," presented to CA-4 DMAT by FEMA/ National Disaster Medical System, for outstanding performance of duty following Hurricane Rita, September-October 2005.

DMAT San Diego CA-4 Command Group:

Commander: Irving "Jake" Jacoby, MD, FACP, FACEP [Attending Physician, Dept. of Emergency Medicine, and Hospital Director for Emergency Preparedness and Response, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, CA; Professor of Medicine and Surgery, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA; Associate Director, UCSD Hyperbaric Medicine Center;]

Deputy Commander: Thérèse Rymer, RN, CFNP, C.OHN, [Emergency Preparedness and Response Director, UCSD Medical Center, San Diego, CA ]

Chief Administrative Officer: Zona Wahrenbrock, R.N.

Nursing Director: Sue Cox, RN, Trauma Coordinator, Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego, CA

Logistics Chief: David Holland.

Supply/Management Officer: Ed Snyder

Communications Chief: -Jay Thompson [Thompson Communications, Inc., San Diego, CA ]

Chief Security Officer: -William Phillips [SD County Sheriffs Dept.]

Training Officer: Sara Ontiveros, RN [UCSD Medical Center SICU Nursing]  
Pharmacy Director: Michael Sohmer, RPH [Sharp Chula Vista Hospital, Chula Vista, Ca]  
Web Master: John Johnson, RPH  
Sponsor Liaison Officer for UCSD Medical Center: Richard Liekweg, Director, University of California, San Diego Medical Center, San Diego, CA  
Sponsor Liaison Officer for International Relief Teams: A. Barry La Forgia, Executive Director

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