

# LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



BRIAN L. CUMMINGS  
FIRE CHIEF

February 14, 2012

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FILE NO. 12-029

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Brian L. Cummings, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: IN-KIND DONATION FOR EZ-GLIDE STAIR CHAIRS

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**Recommendation:** That the Board:

1. Accept a donation from the LAFD Foundation (Foundation) for 14-Ferno EZ-Glide Stair Chairs.
2. Instruct the Commission Executive Assistant to forward this report for necessary action to the Mayor's Office in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3 and the City Council in accordance with the Los Angeles Administrative Code Article 12.

**Summary:**

The Foundation has donated 14-Ferno EZ-Glide Stair Chairs to the Emergency Medical Services Division for the use of moving patients during EMS incidents. The total monetary value of this donation is \$29,036.36.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact to the Department's budget in the acceptance of this donation.

**Conclusion:**

The Los Angeles Fire Department benefits tremendously from gracious donations such as that received from the Foundation. This support provides the Fire Department with additional resources to better serve the community. The Community Liaison Office would like to acknowledge this generous donation from the Foundation.

Board Report prepared by the Community Liaison Office.

Attachment

# LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



BRIAN L. CUMMINGS  
FIRE CHIEF

February 7, 2012

TO: Glenn M. Miyagishima, Battalion Chief, Community Liaison Officer,  
THROUGH CHANNELS

FROM: Gregory S. Reynar, Assistant Chief, Emergency Medical Services Division

SUBJECT: **REQUEST APPROVAL FOR ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT FOUNDATION – "FERNO EZ-GLIDE STAIR CHAIRS"**

## SUMMARY

On August 22, 2011, Karen Wagner, President, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Foundation (Foundation) contacted me to obtain information relative to the Department's emergency medical service equipment needs. Following our discussion, on January 30, 2011, Ms. Wagner notified me that the Foundation had pursued, and successfully obtained, donated funds to purchase fourteen (14) new Ferno "EZ-Glide Stair Chairs" for Department rescue ambulances valued at \$29,036.36.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Department approve the Foundation's donation of (14) EZ-Glide Stair Chairs in the amount of \$29,036.36 consistent with City policy.

## DISCUSSION

Daily, LAFD personnel are confronted with non-ambulatory patients above ground with no access to an elevator, or sick or injured patients in narrow hallways or corridors, away from our ambulances and unable to walk. On many occasions, Department members physically lift these patients and carry them to an area accessible for a gurney (or to the ambulance) using the Ferno Stair Chair Model 42 provided as standard equipment to each LAFD rescue ambulance.

COMPANY/STATION/UNIT COMMANDER	DATE	EMS BATTALION CAPTAIN	DATE	BATTALION COMMANDER	DATE	DIVISION COMMANDER	DATE
BUREAU COMMANDER	DATE	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS COMMANDER		DATE	ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS COMMANDER		DATE

*[Handwritten signature and date 2-5-12 over the Emergency Operations Commander field]*

The existing Ferno Stair Chair Model 42 has a recommended patient weight capacity of 350 lbs and requires two or more rescuers to lift.

Recently, the Ferno Company released its new EZ-Glide Stair Chair Model 59-T. This new device has a number of enhancements including a new rear track system which allows patients up to 500 lbs to be safely wheeled by one rescuer without physically having to lift the patient and device. The new device also allows patients to be safely lowered down stairs by one rescuer.

According to Captain Dan Curry, LAFD Safety Officer, 1:10 Department injuries are a direct result of patient handling incidents. Of these, nearly 90% involve back or extremity injuries to our members. These injuries are painful and often debilitating, expensive, and unfortunately may delay the patient's transport to a hospital when they do occur.

The ability to move patients from upper floors (or narrow hallways) using the Ferno EZ-Glide Stair Chair Model 59-T, can speed patient transport to an awaiting ambulance and will reduce the necessity to physically lift patients with the potential for a resulting injury to Department members.

The Ferno EZ-Glide Stair Chair Model 59-T has been successfully tested by the Department and is currently deployed at seventeen (17) Paramedic Rescue Ambulances. These devices have proven extremely beneficial for transporting patients and have not required additional maintenance or servicing during the past year.

Due to the cost of the newer units (and availability of funding) additional Ferno "EZ-Glide Stair Chair Model 59-T" purchases have not been possible. In support of the generous offer by the Foundation a Ferno quotation has been obtained (see attachment):

QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE EACH	SUBTOTAL	TAX	TOTAL
14	Ferno Model 59-T EZ-Glide Stair Chair	\$1,907.15	\$26,700.10	\$2,336.36	\$29,036.36

### CONCLUSION

Approving the acceptance of the Foundation's donation of fourteen (14) Ferno EZ-Glide Stair Chairs will allow the Department to continue to equip our rescue ambulances with the latest in patient transportation devices, potentially lower the incidence of injuries to members and most importantly speed the movement of critically injured or ill patients to awaiting ambulances.

  
GREGORY S. REYNAR, Assistant Chief  
Emergency Medical Services Division