



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

PREPAREDNESS

Dear EMS Stakeholder:

A.R.S. § 36-3251 (Prehospital medical care directives; form; effect; immunity; definitions) empowers EMS providers to honor the medical care directives of qualified individuals who have completed all required fields of the prehospital medical care directive as prescribed in that statute.

Along with other required information, the form must be signed by the patient/patient's qualified representative, one witness, and a licensed health care provider. A question was raised about who qualifies as a "Licensed Health Care Provider" and is able to sign the prehospital medical care directive form. Per A.R.S. § 36-3201 (7), the following classes of licensed health care practitioner are able to advise the patient on the impact of signing the form and are also able to sign the form:

- Arizona Licensed Practical Nurse,
- Arizona Registered Nurse,
- Arizona Nurse Practitioner,
- Arizona Licensed Medical Doctor,
- Arizona Licensed Doctor of Osteopathy,
- Arizona Licensed Physician Assistant.

That statute defines [a licensed health care professional as](#) "a natural person who is licensed under title 32, chapter 13 [medicine and surgery], , 15 [nursing], 17 [osteopathic physicians and surgeons] or 25 [physician assistants], a hospice as defined in section 36-401 that is licensed under chapter 4 of this title or an organization that is licensed under this title, that renders health care designed to prevent, diagnose or treat illness or injury and that employs persons licensed under title 32, chapter 13, 15, 17 or 25."

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