

Submission

Invoice # 188

Discount Code: None

Date Based Pricing: None

2020-2021 CAASE Award Submission

CAASE Awards Submission

Submission Category:

Community Impact Program (open to any community-based program)

Submission Title:

Biological Screening at LAX

Contact Name:

Carol Meyer

Organization:

McCormick Ambulance

Email:**Preferred**

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Address:**Organization****Phone:****Work Phone****Number of Annual Service Requests:**

73,000

Number of Ambulances:

60

Business Type (check all that apply):

Privately Held Corporation

Project Participants (Names, Job Titles & Email Addresses of individuals involved in the project):

David Konieczny Operations Manager 2020 S. Central Ave Compton, California

90220david@gmr.net 310-409-3114

Situational Analysis (Background of Project):

In September 2019, a representative from the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) attended the LA County Ambulance Association meeting requesting interested companies to contract for screening services at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Subsequently, McCormick Ambulance, the largest ambulance company in the area with the closest accessibility to LAX, was directly contacted by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) division to provide personnel for medical screening of passengers traveling internationally to LAX. Due to the scale of the active screening operation, CWMD was utilized to assist and the trained personnel from McCormick were utilized to perform medical screenings, data collection, and data entry. Operations Manager David Konieczny was asked to coordinate with DHS, its CWMD division and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to lead the project.

Project Goals:

1) Coordinate with US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) along with other Federal agencies to lead the project. 2) Work with CWMD to train McCormick personnel in the Federally required screening process. 3) Schedule and manage personnel as requested to perform screening. 4) Be prepared to escalate screening activity as pandemic evolved.

Planning & Implementation (describe process from the planning phase, including research, through implementation phase. Include the overall length of your project in weeks/months):

The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) division of DHS along with the Center for Disease Center (CDC) personnel assigned to LAX were responsible for ensuring that medical screenings were completed, and passenger demographic information was obtained. Due to the scale of the active screening operation, CWMD was utilized to assist and the trained personnel from McCormick were utilized to perform medical screenings, data collection, and data entry. McCormick personnel received training directly from CWMD regarding information on COVID-19 as well as operations within the Federal Inspection Station (FIS) area of LAX. The operation began with two shifts scheduled each day that consisted of six screeners and one team lead. As the virus and outbreak spread, the inclusion criteria for passenger screening dramatically increased. Additional staffing was brought into the site and consisted of two teams of 16 screeners and one team lead. The operation quadrupled in size when passengers from the Schengen Area (comprised of 26 European countries) were required to be screened as they entered the U.S. Additional resources were brought into the area through AMR's Office of Emergency Management and there were clinical and non-clinical personnel from Arizona, Oregon, Wisconsin, Nevada, and other counties in California. In total, there were approximately 100 personnel that were brought in to provide the staffing for the operation. The Crowne Plaza became the base of operations and the deployed personnel were housed in the facility and transported to and from LAX each day. Then California went into "shut-down" in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID virus. This created a new set of challenges that included obtaining food and water for the deployed resources while working at the site and while off-duty. Using the guidelines of the Incident Command Systems (ICS), we were able to establish an Incident Commander, logistics section, transportation section, and medical supply section that enabled the operation to operate smoothly. At the site itself, Manager Konieczny was able to have the CDC and CBP personnel follow a modified incident command setup which helped as there were large numbers of personnel from each group present and working in the operation.

Results (Did you achieve your goals? How did you measure results?):

During this peak of the operation, thousands of passengers were being individually screened by the McCormick and AMR personnel each day. The screening was performed in a variety of locations and with cor
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personnel were solely responsible for staffing the site. Although the personnel numbers decrease, the workload remained constant and the operation staffed two teams of 11 screeners and one team lead until the end in September 2020 -- all under the leadership of Manager Konieczny.

Impact (What impact has this project had on your service? Information can be given as narrative. However, if possible, please provide qualitative and quantitative information.):

From early January 2020 and through September, Manger Konieczny managed a small army of EMS and Paramedics at multiple terminals throughout LAX for what we now know would become a worldwide pandemic. As of today, Manger Konieczny is still managing crews from McCormick at LAX (for Ebola) and remains on-call for future events as needed. CDC reported that over 120,000 international passengers were screened over the months of implementation.

Budget (Did you have a budget? Budget numbers can be provided as a percentage of overall operating or departmental budget.):

McCormick (AMR) was contracted by DHS to perform this screening function which covered the cost of personnel and materials.

Supporting Documents #1:

LAX_CDC Contractor Donning_Klshii_5-4-2020.jpg

Supporting Documents #2:

LAX_Secondary Screening and Visual Inspection at gate_Klshii_5-4-2020.jpg

Supporting Documents #3:

LAX_Visual Inspection and Secondary Screening_Klshii_5-4-2020.jpg

Supporting Documents #4:

LAX_Doffing_Klshii_5-4-2020.jpg

Supporting Documents #5:**Supporting Documents #6:****Comments:**

Throughout the entire deployment, Manager Konieczny has shown extraordinary leadership and dedication to his EMS co-workers. He represented McCormick Ambulance, AMR and the entire ambulance industry with impeccable class and professionalism. Since LAX is one of the largest international airports in the the highest COVID-impacted cities, the impact has national and worldwide affect. While taking on this project, he maintained all normal functions of the company which included the maintaining field operations during the pandemic. For this, I am honored to recommend David Konieczny and his staff for a Community Impact Program award.

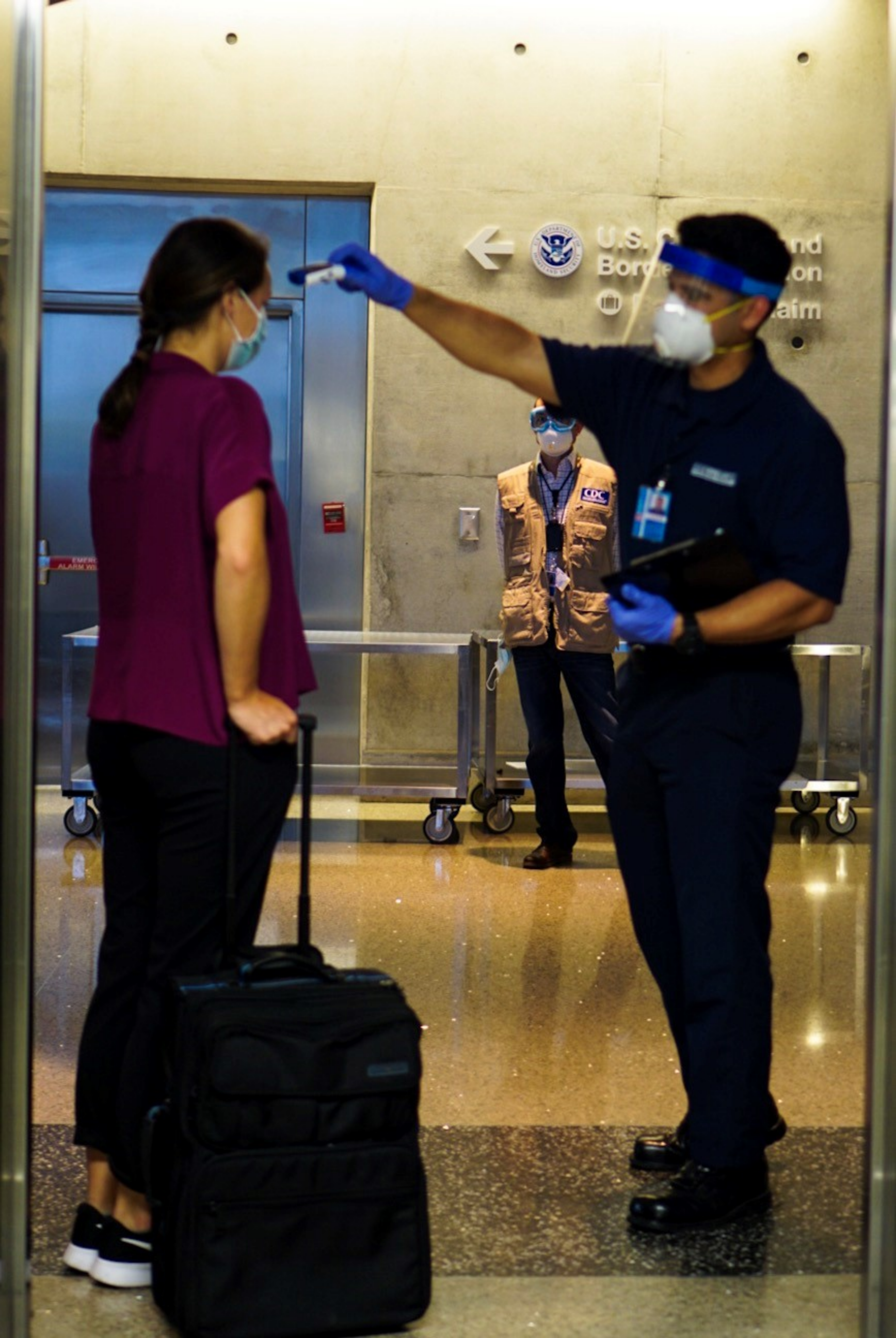
CAASE Awards Submission Fee:

CAASE Awards Submission - \$100.00

General Section**File:**









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