Richard Bradley, MD, CPR Sub-Council Chair  
American Red Cross National Headquarters  
2025 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006  

January 30, 2015  

Douglas Schrage, Fire Chief  
Alaska Fire Chiefs Association  
217 2nd St - Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801  

Dear Chief Schrage:  

The American Red Cross and its Scientific Advisory Council are longstanding advocates for widespread access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs).  

My colleagues on the American Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council and I are charged with advising the Red Cross in areas related to the development and dissemination of audience-appropriate information for CPR/AED, first aid, aquatics, emergency preparedness and safety education. Our guidance is based on the latest evidence-based scientific and medical knowledge.  

Based on this research, knowing how to activate the emergency medical services system, how to perform CPR and how to use an AED saves lives. Every year, more than 300,000 deaths are the result of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. We believe that the closer a victim is to an AED and a trained responder who will take action the better his or her chances are for survival.  

The Red Cross has trained individuals to save or sustain a life, prepare and cope with disasters and help others for more than one hundred and thirty years. Since access to AEDs could save 50,000 lives each year, the vision of the American Red Cross AED Program is for “all Americans to be within four minutes of an AED and someone trained to use it.”  

Please contact me via email at richard.n.bradley@uth.tmc.edu if you have any questions.  

Sincerely,  

Richard Bradley, MD  
CPR Sub-Council Chair  
American Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council  
Professor of Emergency Medicine  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston