



It's About Safety

THE SIREN

*A Newsletter of the Division of Emergency Medical Services
and the State Emergency Medical Services Board
1970 W. Broad Street • Columbus, Ohio 43223
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May/June 2005

www.ems.ohio.gov

News Beyond Lights and Sirens

Richard N. Rucker, Executive Director

National EMS Week, May 15-21

Recognizing the contributions of the past, and building upon them for the future.

Emergency Medical Services Week brought together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those 750,000 EMS providers nationwide who provide the day-to-day life-saving services of the medical "front line."

EMS is a vital part of every community, but recognition of its contribution is often lost in the broader focus on fire, police, public health and homeland security.

Ohio has a bright history in the development, organization, and initiation of emergency medical services in the nation. Some of the state's early EMS accomplishments include:

- Ohio's first known Ohio emergency and rescue squads were organized in the mid 1930s.
- The first state organized training course in the nation was developed in Ohio in 1958.
- In 1959 the nation's first student textbook was developed by Jack Liberator and was published by the Ohio State University Instructional Materials Laboratory.
- Columbus Division of Fire developed the first spinal immobilization board.

Many played an important role in pioneering Ohio's EMS system, and National EMS Week was an opportunity to recognize the contributions of the past, and to build upon them for the future.

In the 30 years since EMS began, EMS providers have worked to set the standard for the world. They fulfill their mission to save lives and minimize disability with a statewide, comprehensive, systematic response to injury and illness.

EMS is vital to all Ohioans, so regardless of whether you are a first responder, a firefighter, an ambulance driver, a paramedic or an EMS board member, you play an important role in delivering emergency services to all Ohioans.

Your skills, professionalism and heart save lives 24 hours a day, seven days a week. And for this...the Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services, thank you for your service.



These are the EMS Honorees from the EMS week salute at the Ohio Department of Public Safety in 2005.

Meetings @ a Glance

Note: Any change in meeting date, time or location can be found on the Division of EMS Web site.

www.ems.ohio.gov

EMS Board Meetings July 20, 2005 10 a.m. ODPS Rm. 134	Trauma Registry Advisory Subcommittee August 16, 2005 October 18, 2005 ODPS Rm. 134
Trauma Committee Meeting July 13, 2005 10 a.m. ODPS Rm. 134	EMS Education Committee July 19, 2005 10 a.m. ODPS Rm. 109

Regional Physician Advisory Board Meetings

Region II August 11, 2005 8:30 a.m. Wright State University Student Union Dayton	Region V October 11, 2005 10 a.m. ACEP Columbus
Region III October 6, 2005 5:30 p.m. Mercer County Community Hospital Coldwater	Region X September 13, 2005 Noon St. Elizabeth Health Center Youngstown
Region IV June 22, 2005 August 24, 2005 9 a.m. Hospital Council Central Park West Drive Toledo	

If you need more information on your region, please contact Carol MacDowell at 800-233-0785.



FIRE SAFETY



The Fire Safety Inspector course is updated and is currently being conducted in Ohio. The Division of EMS has conducted several meetings with a panel of Fire Safety Inspector Instructors to review

the course development and testing mechanism. If you would like more information regarding the Fire Safety Inspector training, email Doug Orahood, Fire Coordinator at dorahood@dps.state.oh.us.

Have you visited our Web site lately? The Division of EMS has added a section on the EMS Web site just for fire instructors and fire charters. You can locate course materials, fire rules, policies and procedures for fire training.

The Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee meetings are held at the Department of Public Safety in Columbus on the second Tuesday of every month and are open to the public.

New Board Member

William Vedra, Deputy Director for the Ohio Division of Homeland Security, has been appointed by Director Morckel to the State EMS Board. His first board meeting was in April. Vedra has filled the seat recently held by Mary Tyler.

Vedra was appointed Deputy Director of the Office of Domestic Preparedness to coordinate the overall effort to prevent, respond, and recover from terrorist attacks. Deputy Director Vedra is also responsible for updating the Homeland Security Strategic Plan.

MORE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES

The departments and agencies comprising the Emergency Services Sector continue to experience suspicious activities at increasing frequency. Impostors carrying falsified credentials have appeared throughout the United States attempting to gain entry into emergency facilities and access their sensitive information. In all cases the impersonators quickly flee when denied. Recently, an emergency medical services (EMS) organization contacted local law enforcement to report suspicious electronic mail. The e-mail requested that the rescue squad host the message sender for an internship to study and learn about American response and rescue operations. Using the information provided in the e-mail, the FBI found that the individual matching that name, age, and place of origin had been refused entrance into the country, and is unwelcome based on his suspected affiliations. Therefore, emergency organizations should be alert for and cautious about similar inquiries or activities. Those intending to harm our nation and its people will try very creative ways to exploit existing vulnerabilities for their terrorist plans and actions. The EMR-ISAC again encourages emergency sector departments and agencies to report suspicious inquiries or activities to the National Infrastructure Coordination Center (NICC) in addition to local law enforcement. The NICC can be contacted by voice at 202-282-9201, e-mail at nicc@dhs.gov, or by facsimile at 703-487-3570.



EMS Data Center

You've probably heard it or read it already: The EMS Incident Reporting System is changing. The start of EMSIRS Version 2 is right around the corner. And this is going to be a BIG change.

The change is being made to improve the quality of data collected in Ohio so that we can better analyze the performance of the EMS system, and to keep in step with the new national standard of EMS data collection.

Implementation of EMSIRS-2 starts in just a couple of months - on January 1, 2006 - and will be phased in over a two year period. This phased implementation is being provided to ease your transition to the new data set. Users of the EMSIRS web-based, direct data entry system will be switched to EMSIRS-2 on January 1, 2006. Users of third-party software (such as Firehouse) may continue to use the original EMSIRS data set until their software is ready to upgrade to EMSIRS-2. They may upgrade to EMSIRS-2 at any point on or after January 1, 2006, but they MUST be using EMSIRS-2 by the end of December 31, 2007. Beginning January 1, 2008 the original EMSIRS data set will no longer be accepted.

The new data set is larger and more comprehensive. The EMSIRS-2 Data Dictionary spells out in detail what the data elements are and how they are defined. It can be found in the EMSIRS section of the EMS website at ems.ohio.gov. Every single EMT of every level in Ohio should read and be familiar with the Data Dictionary.

The EMS Data Center's staff will be holding nearly 50 EMSIRS-2 orientation sessions in over two dozen locations across the state. They will start in mid-August and end in early November. The details of where and when the sessions will be held will be released when they are finalized, so keep watching our web site and your mailbox.

DISCIPLINARY & ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

March 2005 Board Actions

Jason E. Tipton, EMS Certificate #116736

Violation: Felony convictions, Rape (2 counts) and Pandering Sexually Oriented Matter Involving a Minor
Sanction: Permanent Revocation of certificate to practice

Edward J. Brewer, EMS Instructor Cert. #27125

Violation: Teaching on expired EMS Instructor Certificate
Sanction: EMS Instructor certificate granted, placed on ninety day suspension, two year probation, and must obey all laws

Mark F. Irwin, EMS Certificate #122889

Violation: Felony conviction, Importuning
Sanction: Permanent Revocation of certificate to practice

Ryan K. Turk, EMS Certificate #73429

Violation: Misrepresentation of EMS credentials and practicing without certification
Sanction: Fourteen month suspension (stayed), written reprimand, three year probation, must document continuing education for August 2000 through August 2003, and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal in 2008

Scott M. Custer, EMS Applicant, ID #142998

Violation: Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude convictions, Petty Theft and Trespassing
Sanction: Written reprimand and must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check within 120 days/prior to issuance of certificate

Eric S. Wright, EMS Certificate #39088

Violation: Misrepresentation of EMS credentials and practicing outside scope
Sanction: 120 day suspension (stayed), written reprimand, three year probation, must successfully pass reinstatement exam for paramedic, and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal in 2007

Catherine C. Barber, EMS Applicant, #17176

Violation: Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude convictions, Theft
Sanction: Written reprimand and must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check within 120 days/prior to issuance of certificate

Randall J. Pavlak, EMS Certificate #15031

Violation: Random Audit Issues
Sanction: Written reprimand, must complete continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

Pete J. Theodore, EMS Certificate #4655

Violation: Committed fraud or deception in applying for or securing a certificate to practice and failure to complete the continuing education requirements to renew
Sanction: Written reprimand, \$250.00 disciplinary fine, must complete the continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

Mark A. Elzholz, Jr., EMS Certificate #125835

Violation: Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude conviction, Vehicular Manslaughter
Sanction: Written reprimand, must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check within 6 months, and must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check upon renewal in 2007

William M. Kelso, Jr., EMS Certificate #21006

Violation: Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude conviction, Soliciting
Sanction: Written reprimand and must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check within 6 months

Jeffrey M. Braemer, EMS Certificate #77982

Violation: Random Audit Issues
Sanction: Written reprimand, must complete continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

Latino L. Knotts, EMS Certificate #76683

Violation: Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude conviction, Simple Assault
Sanction: Written reprimand, must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check within 6 months, and must submit a Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Civilian Background Check upon renewal in 2008

Victor Massa, EMS Certificate #112246

Violation: Random Audit Issues
Sanction: Written reprimand, must complete continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

David R. Barrett, EMS Certificate #112292

Violation: Committed fraud or deception in applying for or securing a certificate to practice and failure to complete the continuing education requirements to renew
Sanction: Written reprimand, \$250.00 disciplinary fine, must complete the continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

Martin J. Boland, EMS Certificate #112290

Violation: Committed fraud or deception in applying for or securing a certificate to practice and failure to complete the continuing education requirements to renew
Sanction: Written reprimand, \$250.00 disciplinary fine, must complete the continuing education requirements and must supply documentation of continuing education upon renewal

April 2005 Board Actions

Jeremy S. Adair, EMS Certificate #121827

Violation: Felony conviction, Felonious Assault
Sanction: Permanent Revocation of certificate to practice

(There were no surrenders.)

Accreditation Violations

None

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