



EMSAC Members' Update

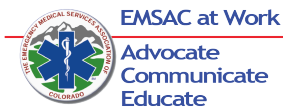
A monthly update for members of the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado.

February 2022

EMSAC group (agency) members, please forward to your staff. If you have news for the EMSAC monthly update, send it to communications@emsac.org.

EMSAC NEWS

Legislative updates online



Keep up with our State and Congressional Status Report [here](#). This is updated weekly during the Colorado legislative session, January - May.

Read our EMS lobbyist weekly updates for this year, [here](#).

Our legislative resources page has volumes of links to help you "Have an Impact on Colorado EMS."

- Text and status of [Congressional](#) bills, committees and members in both chambers.
- Home page of the [Colorado General Assembly](#) for bills, committees, hearing calendar, fiscal notes.
- Information on Colorado General Assembly [Committees](#), including meeting schedules.
- [Remotely testifying](#) at the Colorado General Assembly.
- [NAEMT](#) Advocacy Center.
- [AAA](#) Advocacy Center.
- United States Congress legislative process ([video](#)).

Special update: EMSAC at the Joint Budget Committee



We were afforded the **extraordinarily unusual** opportunity to testify for 20 minutes to the Colorado General Assembly's Joint Budget Committee on February 8. EMSAC members explained (in-person and online) EMS' desperate need to raise the Colorado Medicaid reimbursement rate to 80% of Medicare. Listen to the very-well received testimony by Tim Dienst, Ute Pass Regional EMS District; Rueban Farnsworth, Delta County EMS; Scott

Sholes, Durango Fire Protection District and Addy Marantino, NW Colorado RETAC, [here](#).

Our special thanks go to Chris Howes for arranging our testimony and briefing JBC members on select topics that deserved specific questions during the hearing.

Do you know of an EMS professional affected by the recent Marshall fire in Boulder county? Would you like to donate or help?

The catastrophic 6200-acre Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and suburban wildfire in Boulder County, December 30, 2021, has prompted us to create a special program and fund to assist the EMS professionals that have been affected.

Please consider donating to this fund through our Colorado Gives account.



Colorado EMS Educators Association



Circle the Date!

Second Annual Colorado EMS Educators Symposium

May 21-22, 2022 in Colorado Springs.
Pre-con May 19-20.

The Colorado EMS Educators Association is a chartered subsidiary special interest group of EMSAC.



You can have an impact on EMS in Colorado



EMSAC at Work
Advocate
Communicate
Educate

You can now easily volunteer with an EMSAC Committee, [online](#). EMSAC committees are the workhorse of all we do. Get involved and make your mark on EMS in Colorado.

COLORADO EMS NEWS

Crisis Standards of Care for EMS deactivated



Effective Thursday, Feb. 17 at 8 a.m. CDPHE is deactivating crisis standards of care for staffing and emergency medical services. The state will no longer have any crisis standards of care activated.

Hospitals, nursing homes, and emergency medical service providers should use the conventional standard of care practices no later than next Thursday.

Child Maltreatment in Emergency Response



Tuesdays, March 8 - 29, 9 - 10 a.m. Gain tools to recognize and prevent child maltreatment. For more information or to register click [here](#). Questions contact Kathleen Adelgais.

Colorado Community Paramedic program featured



Ute Pass Regional Health Services District CP Program Director James McLaughlin and Jonathon Feit talked on Facebook Live for JEMS.com about the real and opportunity costs of community paramedicine/mobile integrated health. Listen [here](#).

State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council



The State of Colorado is seeking individuals interested in serving on the State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council to apply for one of the following open positions:

- A board-certified neurosurgeon involved in providing trauma care at a Level I or II trauma center.
- A representative of a **government provider of pre-hospital care.**
- An administrative representative of a rural trauma center.
- **An officer or crew member of a volunteer organization who provides pre-hospital care.**
- A county emergency manager.
- A **flight nurse** of an emergency medical service air team or unit.
- A licensed physician who is a pre-hospital medical director.
- A board-certified surgeon providing trauma care at a Level III trauma center.

To apply, go to the [Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions](#) website to complete the online application and attach documents. Once submitted, an email confirmation will be received. Applications are due April 15. Questions contact [Kate Siegel Shimko](#).

2022 EMS Safety Summit



National EMS Safety Summit—sponsored by the Mile-High RETAC Foundation, **will be virtual** April 6-8, 2022 with the 7th EMS Financial Symposium on April 5. The National EMS Safety Summit is a nationally recognized conference totally focused on safety for personnel, patients and the community. EMS staff can learn about trends and techniques to increase safety within their operations, improve


patient care, engage in valuable networking and idea-sharing and see the latest industry products and services. Details [here](#).

OTHER NEWS


Joint Statement on Lights & Siren Vehicle Operations on EMS Responses

15 American and Canadian associations have released a joint statement about the use of RL&S during an EMS response. The paper states, "For EMS, the purpose of using L&S is to improve patient outcomes by decreasing the time to care at the scene or to arrival at a hospital for additional care, but only a small percentage of medical emergencies have better outcomes from L&S use." Read the paper [here](#).


FDA Expands Warning of Blood Tube Shortages

 On January 19, 2022, the FDA updated the [medical device shortage list](#) to include **all** blood specimen collection tubes (product codes GIM and JKA). Section 506J of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) requires the FDA to maintain a publicly-available, up-to-date list of the devices the FDA has determined to be in shortage. You can read more including recommended conservation strategies at <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/letters-health-care-providers/update-blood-specimen-collection-tube-conservation-strategies-letter-health-care-and-laboratory>.

EMS On The Hill Day Registration Now Open


 For 12 years, EMS On The Hill Day has been a platform for EMS to educate Congress on what we need to serve our patients and communities and advocate for legislation to address these needs. EMS On The Hill Day has an impressive track record of success – 16 federal bills advocated for during Hill Days have been signed into law! The event will be held April 5-6, 2022 in Arlington, VA. For more info, go to <https://naemt.org/events/register>.

New Prehospital Pain Management Evidence-Based Guidelines Published

 New evidence-based guidelines to help prehospital clinicians effectively manage patients' pain have been published in the journal Prehospital Emergency Care. The guidelines and related training materials will help ensure safe, effective and equitable people-centered care. [Read the New Guidelines Now](#).

COVID NEWS

Clinical Outcomes Among Patients With 1-Year Survival Following Intensive Care Unit Treatment for COVID-19

 In this exploratory multicenter prospective cohort study that included 246 patients who were alive 1 year following ICU treatment for COVID-19, 74.3% reported physical symptoms, 26.2% reported mental symptoms, and 16.2% reported cognitive symptoms. Read more [here](#).

REMINDERS

EMS Career Center



EMSAC's new [Career Center](#) is free for anyone to view job listings and to post and edit their resumes.

Recruiters can browse the resumes in the system to see if there is a good match within the EMSAC membership database.

NEW Job Board feature! When posting a job to the EMSAC Job Board, you can now send an email notification about the post. This feature is only an additional \$50 and can help with visibility to your job posting.

[How to post a job](#) (for Job Recruiters) [Upload a resume](#) (for Job Seekers)

The EMSAC [Career Center](#) is a national job board, linked to EMS jobs posted in other states. **Posting a job is free for EMSAC members.** For-non members there is a fee, but the cost is lower than many job boards.

CREATE—Colorado Resource for Emergency Education



CREATE offers a live Q&A session on the first Monday of every month from 2:00 to 2:50 PM. Here you can find answers that will help in applying for a CREATE education grant (except November (2:30 pm to 3:20 pm) and January (first Thursday). Attend these interactive sessions to ask questions related to the CREATE grant application.

- To join from your [computer, tablet or smartphone](#): <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/709267797>.
- To join by phone dial (872) 240-321, access code: 709-267-797.

Report EMS Sentinel Events



In the continued effort to improve EMS provider and patient safety, the SEMTAC Safety Committee asks EMS providers to [report](#) sentinel events using EVENT (EMS Voluntary Event Notification Tool). EVENT is a platform that allows an individual or organization to anonymously report misses and near-miss occurrences, resulting in system improvements.

Order Colorado EMS insignia and rockers online



We have Colorado EMS uniform insignia, rockers and window decals available, you can order [online](#). These are the de facto "state EMS" insignia for Colorado. Insigne rockers: Critical Care Paramedic, Paramedic, EMT, EMT-Advanced, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, Dispatcher, Instructor, Nurse, Physician, Student. Window decals: EMT-B, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-P, 3" EMSAC decal for POVs, 5" EMSAC decal for agency vehicles.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Path4EMS: Colorado's EMS Peer Assistance program

Any currently certified Colorado EMS provider now has a new avenue of access and support for issues related to stress management, mental health and wellness. These services are confidential, free of charge, and available statewide. Information about the program can be found [here](#). **For immediate assistance, please call 1-800-873-7138. [Make the Call to Make Things Better.](#)**

Firefighters and EMS personnel face many unique challenges that can have a significant impact on their behavioral health. To ensure these individuals and their families have access to the help they need, the NVFC teamed up with American Addiction Centers (AAC) to create a free, confidential helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fire/EMS Helpline: 1-888-731-FIRE (3473)
The Code Green Campaign
[Code Green](#) is a first responder-oriented mental health advocacy and education organization. It is not a crisis helpline; its mission is to bring awareness to the high rates of mental health problems in first responders and reduce them, eliminate the stigma that prevents people from admitting problems are present and asking for help and educate first responders on self and peer care and to advocate systemic change in how mental health problems are addressed by first responder agencies.

Building Warriors

[Building Warriors](#) is a specialty group of private practice professional counselors and peer consultants supporting emergency responders and their families. Even the strongest among us can feel lost, unsure, ambivalent, or unhappy at times. We specialize in working with Emergency Responders and their families. We can help manage whatever life may bring, we will attack issues and focus on finding a healthy balance within your mind, body, and heart. For more information or to schedule a class for your agency, call (720) 504-6207.

Foundation 1023

[Foundation 1023](#) is committed to supporting the emotional and mental wellness of first responders and their support network who are experiencing illness, loss or stressful life events by providing confidential funding for emotional and mental wellness services, as well as access to peer supported outdoor activities and events designed for personal wellness and connection. Foundation 1023 offers referral services and financial support to pre-approved Professional Counselors that are experienced in the first response industry.

Safe Call Now - (206) 459-3020

[Safe Call Now](#) is an emergency services-based emergency CONFIDENTIAL, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide. Speak confidentially with officers, public safety professionals and/or mental health care providers who are familiar with your line of work. MAKE A SAFE CALL NOW: (206) 459-3020. Download a brochure for your colleagues and staff.

Colorado Crisis and Support Line 1-844-493-TALK (8255)

Get connected 24/7/365 with experienced professionals, counselors and peer specialists. [Colorado Crisis Services](#) has **12 walk-in crisis service centers**: Fort Collins, Greeley, Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs; and in metro Denver: Westminster, Lakewood, Littleton, Aurora (2), Boulder and Denver. [Download](#) an information card. For your agency offices and quarters download a rack card.



Banner and button advertising are available here to reach key EMS professionals. Contact [communications](#) at [emsac dot org](#)



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