



EMSAC Members' Update

An update for the profession from the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO
 EMSAC group (agency) members, please forward to your staff.
 July 2021

If you have news for the EMSAC monthly update, send it to communications@emsac.org.

EMSAC NEWS

2021 Colorado
 State EMS
 Conference

Early Bird
 Registration



Registration is OPEN for the 49th Annual Colorado State EMS Conference— Secure your spot before prices increase on September 4th!

Don't miss out on our 49th Annual Colorado State EMS [Conference](#) in Keystone, Colorado November 4th (precon day) through November 7th! This [conference](#) continues to build on its impressive tradition of superb EMS [education](#) in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. This is the premier event where EMS professionals, agency managers and administrators, EMS instructors, medical directors and allied professionals learn about trends and techniques that enhance patient care and agency operations. The Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado is proud to bring you Colorado's foremost EMS educational [event](#). We look forward to seeing you there **in person again!**

2021 Colorado State EMS Award Nominations

The [portal](#) for nominations for this year's Colorado EMS Awards is now open. Take a few moments to recognize a colleague for their exceptional service in any of the categories below. Get it done early, so the September 15 deadline does not sneak up on you (it's only seven weeks away!).

1. Robert Marlin ALS EMS Professional of the Year
2. BLS EMS Professional of the Year
3. Critical Care Paramedic of the Year
4. Community Paramedic of the Year
5. RN of the Year
6. EMS Dispatcher-of-the-Year
7. EMS Ambulance Service-of-the-Year
8. EMS Executive-of-the-Year (Formerly EMS Administrator-of-the-Year)
9. EMS Region-of-the-Year
10. Dr. Gerald Gordon EMS Instructor/Coordinator-of-the-Year
11. Dr. Valentin E. Wohlauser Award for Physician Excellence in EMS
12. Paul Cary Award for Valor (formerly the Gold Honor for Saving Life)



13. EMSAC Citizen Rescuer Award for Valor
14. C.J. Shanaberger Award for Lifetime Achievement
15. Francis Mildred Roth Women in EMS Award
16. Dr. Robert Campbell Award for Distinguished and Meritorious Service
17. EMSAC Life Honor Membership Award
18. The "Peg Hamilton" Award
19. EMSAC President's Award
20. Children's Hospital Colorado Award for Commitment to Pediatric Emergency Care
21. Flight For Life Colorado Award for Excellence in Safety



Joining a Committee is Easy!

You can have an impact on EMS in Colorado. 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!



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.

OTHER NEWS



National EMS Weekend of Honor Pays Tribute to Fallen EMS Heroes

The [National EMS Memorial Service](#), the National EMS Memorial Foundation and the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride recently paid tribute to 144 EMS and air medical fallen from 39 states across the U.S. during the 2021 National EMS Weekend of Honor, July 23-25, 2021. The increased number of honorees being recognized this year is due to last year's cancellation combined with ongoing research and vetting efforts dedicated to locating yet-to-be-honored EMS fallen from the past. This year's lists include the 2019 and 2020 honorees plus 72 past EMS fallen dating back as far as 1895 that were researched and vetted for inclusion thanks to the efforts of many volunteers.



EMS Body-worn Camera Quickstart Guide: Legal Considerations for EMS Agencies

This [document](#) identifies and generally outlines threshold legal considerations for EMS agencies contemplating the use of body-worn cameras. Download the document [here](#).



FDA Revokes EUA on Non-NIOSH Approved Disposable Respirators

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is revoking the Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) for non-NIOSH-approved disposable respirators (revocation effective July 6, 2021) and the EUAs for decontamination and bioburden reduction systems (revocation effective June 30, 2021). As of the effective date of the revocations, these devices will no longer be authorized for use by health care personnel in health care settings. These actions are in follow-up to the May 27, 2021, letter in which the FDA recommended a transition away from non-NIOSH-approved disposable respirators as well as from reusing decontaminated or bioburden-reduced disposable respirators. Read more [here](#).



The Atlantic

Emergency Medicine's Original Sin

The misperception that paramedics are merely ambulance drivers is everyone's problem.

Lindsey Kaczmarek gets called an ambulance driver more often than she gets called a paramedic. "That's absolutely not what I do," she told me. What she does do is show up when someone needs medical help, figure out what's wrong with them, and do whatever she can to help them survive the trip to the hospital—in her case, the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota." Read the article [here](#).

Trauma System News

New Research in Prehospital Tourniquet Application

Forty years ago, Peter Rosen, MD, then the chair of the Emergency Department at Denver General Hospital (now Denver Health), defined a concept he called "The Technical Imperative." Quite simply, the Technical Imperative is the principle that "If a procedure is taught, it will be used with a frequency greater than its indications."

A group of researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital and Amsterdam UMC conducted a 5-year retrospective [review](#) of adults who presented at their trauma centers with a prehospital tourniquet. They found that out of 147 patients:

- Tourniquet application was indicated in only 51% of patients
- Tourniquets were inappropriately placed in 27% of patients
- 5 patients sustained complications (nerve palsy and compartment syndrome)



Colorado State of 9-1-1 Report

Please read the Colorado Public Utilities Commission's [DRAFT](#) 2020-2021 State of 9-1-1 Report. It includes:

- The commission's actions related to 911 service in the state during the previous year as well as planned implementation actions related to 911 service for the upcoming year;
- The current statewide structure, technology, and general operations of 911 service in Colorado;
- 911 network reliability and resiliency;
- Identified gaps, vulnerabilities, and needs related to 911 service in the state;
- The impact on and involvement of the state in federal activities and national trends affecting 911 service in Colorado;
- The state's planning for, transition to, and implementation of next-generation 911, including a projected timeline for full statewide implementation; and
- A discussion of 911 funding and fiscal outlook, including current funding sources and whether they are adequate for 911 service in the state, and potential funding mechanisms for the transition to and implementation of next-generation 911.

Please add your comments and suggestions directly to the document, by August 18.

[2020-2021 Annual State of 911 Report](#)



NHRA Policy Brief: Challenges to Rural EMS

According to a new National Rural Health Association (NHRA) report, nearly one-third of rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are in immediate operational jeopardy. Rural ambulance services rely heavily on volunteers. About 53% of rural EMS agencies are staffed by volunteers, compared with 14% in urban areas. More than 70% of those rural agencies report difficulty finding volunteers. Adding to the burden, Medicare and Medicaid payments only cover a third of the EMS costs. Read [more](#).



Honoring Healthcare Heros!

Healthcare workers across the country are selflessly and tirelessly caring for their communities every day in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a token of appreciation **Hyatt Place Keystone** is extending their Friends & Family Rate to you and your family. Book January 1–September 12, 2021. Click [here](#) for details.

COVID-19 News

Stateline

Stateline Highlights Vaccination Fraud

The Pew Charitable Trusts describes state legislative efforts to combat the rising incidence of fraudulent vaccine credentials in a recent article, [“Yes, Some People Really Are Faking Their COVID Vaccine Cards.”](#)



Vaccine Acceptability Among EMS Workers and Firefighters

Two recent evidence-based studies in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (JOEM) report trends of emergency workers and vaccine acceptability. Information gleaned from the evidence might provide insight for state health officials into targeted messaging strategies. Read more at [COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptability Among US Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Workers A Cross-Sectional Study](#) and [COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake and Intent Among Emergency Healthcare Workers: A Cross-Sectional Survey](#).



Surgeon General Urges “Whole of Society” Effort to Address Health Misinformation

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy has issued a new primer to assist health leaders and communities address health misinformation: information that is false, inaccurate, or misleading about the COVID 19 pandemic. Misinformation has caused confusion and led people to decline COVID-19 vaccines, reject public health measures such as masking and physical distancing, use unproven treatments, and harass public health workers, health professionals, airline staff, and other frontline workers tasked with communicating evolving public health measures. Read “Confronting Health Misinformation: The U.S. Surgeon General’s Advisory on Building a Healthy Information Environment” [here](#).

Medscape

How the Delta Variant Upends Assumptions About the Coronavirus

(Reuters) - The Delta variant is the fastest, fittest and most formidable version of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 the world has encountered, and it is upending assumptions about the disease even as nations loosen restrictions and open their economies, according to virologists and epidemiologists... Read more [here](#).

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.

**USEFUL
RESOURCES**

Banner and button advertising are available here to reach key EMS purchasers and agency directors.
Contact [communications at emsac dot org](mailto:communications@emsac.org)

**Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado**

2851 S. Parker Road Suite 1210, Aurora, CO 80014
Mailing: P.O. Box 3406, Englewood, CO 80155

www.emsac.org
emsac@emsac.org

(303) 317-6511 or (800) 889-5690, Fax (303) 200-7099

© 2021, Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado