



EMSAC Members' Update

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

October 2023—Our 50th year!

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

[Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [EMS Job Board](#) [Join EMSAC](#)

This is your association, and we want to hear from you. You can find your region representative and the officers [here](#). If you do not know who to call or have a general question, contact the staff at [303-317-6511](tel:303-317-6511) or email emsac@emsac.org.

THIS MONTH'S USEFUL MUSING

If black boxes survive air crashes, why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff? — George Carlin

EMSAC NEWS



It's here! Registration is on-site as of now.

Sponsored by



[Learn More About the Conference here.](#)

Stop by the EMSAC booth at the conference and learn what EMS professionals have been doing for you across the state.

And celebrate Colorado! Enter our drawing to win this 20" x 30" metal print, ready to hang in your home or EMS office!

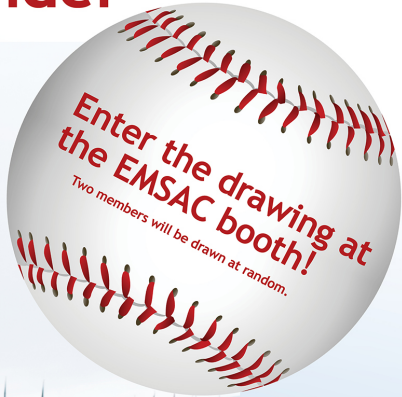


Wa-Wa-Wow! Enter this members-only drawing at the EMSAC booth at the Colorado State EMS Conference.



Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado

EMSAC members – you could represent EMS on the field at 2024 First Responder Day at the Colorado Rockies!



Two members will be selected to be on the field during the opening ceremonies and shown live on the scoreboard video!

Travel to Coors Field and lodging is not provided.

Tickets for any companions must be purchased with the 2024 First Responder Day at the Rockies group ticket offer.



EMS Professionals' Emergency Relief Fund

A special program and fund to assist EMS professionals affected by a disaster.

[Click above to apply for assistance in a personal emergency.](#)



EMSAC at Work
Advocate
Communicate
Educate

Make a Difference in Colorado EMS

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.

Visit Us at the Colorado EMS Conference in Keystone!



We are excited to welcome you to Keystone, Nov. 2-5! Please stop by the NAEMT booth to hear the latest association news, see our new publications, and receive a warm greeting from our team.

Come see us in the NAEMT booth!



Introducing
ONEDOSE
the most **accurate** protocol management solution on the market, powered by the first-ever universal gurney scale, OneWeight.

Follow along:



 hinckleymed.com

[Visit us at the Colorado State EMS Conference in the exhibit hall!](#)

COLORADO EMS NEWS

Growing 'Tranq' Threat Poses Challenges

Medscape The widening threat of the animal tranquilizer xylazine, otherwise known as tranq, which has been found in illegally manufactured fentanyl, necessitates wider testing, a better understanding of its effects, and more research on treatment options, according to a narrative review published Monday in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

[Xylazine is believed to prolong or intensify the effects of opioids](#), making it a popular additive to illegally produced opioids, [particularly fentanyl](#), according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. Users end up in a zombie-like state with slowed breathing, and they sometimes develop skin ulcers. Because xylazine is not an opioid, common antidotes such as [naloxone](#) are ineffective. Get the details [here](#).

OTHER NEWS

Majority of ground ambulance rides were out of network in 2022, report finds

Medscape Patients often have little choice of ambulance provider, and federal law doesn't protect them from surprise bills from the rides. Get the summary [here](#).

NHTSA report highlights ambulance crash data



NHTSA

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Ground ambulance crashes remain one of the leading causes of death on the job among emergency medical services (EMS) personnel. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) recently published an [analysis](#) of ground ambulance crash data from 2012 to 2018, along with a presentation and infographic summarizing its findings. Read the full 2023 [analysis](#) as a PDF.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO NOTE



The new AEMT and Paramedic Certification Examinations will launch on July 1, 2024.



All AEMT and Paramedic candidates will be required to take the new AEMT or Paramedic Certification Examination beginnings on July 1, 2024.



The existing psychomotor examination will remain available until June 30, 2024; after that date, all candidates must take the new examinations.



The new AEMT and Paramedic Certification Examinations simplify the examination process.

This change is in direct response to the feedback the NAEMT received from the EMS community. NAEMT has heard that you wanted an easier process for the Advanced Life Support (ALS) examination, and this change does just that by moving to one exam on one date. It also brings our Paramedic and AEMT examinations in line with most other health-based professions, which have made similar updates in recent years, and matches the best research and science that's currently available. Get the details [here](#).

Women in EMS

Questionnaire

This [questionnaire](#) is to help share real-life experiences and to help guide a presentation about being a female in the field of EMS. The overall intent of the



presentation will be to help unite and encourage female EMS providers. You are receiving this to provide perspective from one of the following: a female in EMS, a female in the workforce, or a male in EMS.

Vanguard Award Nominations Open Through January 1, 2024

WiES is proud to announce we are collaborating with the American Ambulance Association to present the [2024 Vanguard Awards](#)! Recognize woman leaders with at least 35 years of service in EMS! Nominations are open for the second annual American Ambulance Association Vanguard Awards! The Vanguard Awards honor those who blazed the trail for fellow women EMS professionals.



RESPONDERSAFETY

On The Highway We've Got Your Back

If you are involved in a roadway incident where you, a fellow responder, or any emergency equipment was struck or nearly struck by an oncoming vehicle, you can now easily report the incident to the national database, [ReportStruckBy.com](#). The Emergency Responder Safety Institute (ERSI) has been collecting struck-by incident data directly from responders since [the launch of ReportStruckBy.com](#) in 2021. ERSI published its [initial analysis on the data collected so far](#) in September 2023.

TRAINING

Volunteer Voices Live - EMS Scene Safe: Situational Awareness for Scene Safety

Every EMS provider knows the phrase “BSI Scene Safe,” but what does it really mean to develop and maintain a safe scene? What challenges are your EMS crews facing that cause difficulty in gathering information or resources for scene safety? Register for this **Nov 7, 2023 01:00 PM** Zoominar [here](#).

COVID NEWS

New COVID Strain May Evade Vaccines, Alarming Health Officials

A new strain of COVID-19 that was only identified recently in the U.S. has prompted the CDC to take the rare step of issuing a formal message that it could evade vaccines or the protection of natural immunity. Get the details [here](#).

REMINDERS



Click for EMS license plates



Click for EMS Insignia



Click to report safety incidents

Public Safety Officers' Benefit - PSOB



Every emergency service agency should be familiar with the Public Safety Officers' Benefit from the U.S. Department of Justice. The PSOB offers survivor benefits and educational benefits to families of emergency service professionals killed in the line of duty. The PSOB also offers disability benefits to those disabled in their E.S. work. Read more [here](#).



[Order yours by starting here](#)

tinyurl.com/EMSLicensePlate

Important EMS Information for You



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.

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 who 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.

Thank you to our generous sustaining members.

Please visit and thank them at the 2023 Colorado State EMS Conference.





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

© 2023, Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado