

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Clinicians

Vol. 50 No. 4

April 2024

Governor Moore Launches Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse Response Website

ON APRIL 11, 2024, Governor Wes Moore announced the launch of the Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse Response Website (<https://response.maryland.gov/bridge>), which serves as a central hub for Marylanders in search of federal, state, and local resources and programs related to the collapse of Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge on March 26, 2024. The website includes information on relief programs for impacted workers and businesses, major traffic updates for commuters, and guidance on in-person resources available through Maryland Business Recovery Centers.

“My administration wants to make it as simple as possible for Marylanders to navigate the resources available to them to mitigate impacts of the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge,” said Gov. Moore. “During the time of unimaginable tragedy, we have also seen our community rally around one another and lift each other up. I am committed to making sure those who are impacted know how to get the supports they need while we reopen the channel and get the Port fully operational.”

The website provides Marylanders with updates based on Governor Moore’s four directives for recovery, which include: giving closure to the victim’s families, clearing the chan-



[Photo: Maryland State Police Aviation Command]

nel and open vessel traffic to the Port of Baltimore, taking care of all those affected by this crisis, and rebuilding the Key Bridge. Additional resources on the website include direct links to information on the salvage and response operations from the Unified Command, up-to-date traffic and road closure alerts from the Maryland Department of Transportation, and Maryland's official 5-1-1 Traveler Information service.

The website will be updated regularly as additional programs become available through federal, state, and

local resources.

To view the Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse Response Website, scan or click on the QR code below. ■



CALENDAR

APRIL

■ **5-6:** *Executive Fire Officer and Leadership Symposium*. National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, MD.

MAY

■ **2-3:** *American College of Surgeons Point Counterpoint Conference*. Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards, Baltimore, MD.

■ **13:** *Maryland Highway Safety Summit*. Hilton Baltimore BWI Hotel, Linthicum Heights, MD.

■ **19-25:** *National EMS Week*.

■ **23:** *National Stop the Bleed Day*.

JUNE

■ **2:** *Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Annual Memorial Service*. Annapolis, MD.

■ **15-20:** *132nd Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention & Conference*. Convention Center, Ocean City, MD.

SEPTEMBER

■ **20:** *Topics in Trauma*. Tidal Health Peninsula Regional, Salisbury, MD.

OCTOBER

■ **26:** *R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Celebration*. France-Merrick Performing Arts Center, Baltimore, MD.

EMS News Digest

■ **Local First Responders, Aviation Medics, Work with Shock Trauma Go Team to Save Man's Life** (*Cumberland Times-News*). An intense, logistically challenging car accident on U.S. Route 220 in Rawlings on February 5 took tremendous collaboration and communication among emergency dispatchers, volunteer fire personnel, state police, trauma and hospital experts and highly trained medical aviation crews. But it was the initial survey of the scene by local first responders who recognized the need to call for more help that got the ball rolling. Read more: https://www.times-news.com/news/local-first-responders-aviation-medics-work-with-shock-trauma-go-team/article_9108d570-c641-11ee-856c-d3ca4818e64d.html?fbclid=IwAR2051U-2R-S3zs5Ep14WQbwca0jXXZ-r5FDQJ2Sn6Sg2gPOLmj62UEvdWA

■ **Local Emergency Medical Partners Host 28th Year of Winterfest**

(*Talbot County Government*). Emergency medical professionals from around the state (and surrounding states) descended upon Easton, Maryland, February 2-4, 2024, for the 28th annual Winterfest EMS Conference. Read more: <https://talbotcountymd.gov/press-releases/local-emergency-medical-partners-host-28th-year-of-winterfest>

■ **RACSTC Advocates for Increased Support at Legislative Assembly** (*Fox 45 Baltimore*). More than 60 trauma doctors, nurses, clinicians, and supporters gathered recently at the Maryland Legislative Complex in Annapolis to raise awareness about the lifesaving mission and statewide impact of the world-renowned R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center (STC) at the University Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. Read more: <https://foxbaltimore.com/news/local/marylands-shock-trauma-center-advocates-for-increased-support-at-legislative-assembly>. ■

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MIEMSS Celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

EVERY YEAR, during the second week of April, MIEMSS honors telecommunications personnel in the public safety community as part of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Across Maryland, each and every day, thousands of people needing help call 9-1-1. While they, in the moment, depend on the assistance they receive, many have little awareness of the sophistication and dedication of the system and the people that spring into action with each and every call.

MIEMSS celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week to help acknowledge the expertise and dedication of those who answer our 9-1-1 calls for help, and who ensure the system for accessing emergency help is there when we need it.

MIEMSS recognizes that 9-1-1 telecommunicators are



"TO ALL OF MARYLAND'S PUBLIC SAFETY Telecommunicators, thank you for your commitment, your passion, your expertise, and the vital service you provide each and every minute of every day."

DR. TED DELBRIDGE
MIEMSS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

a vital link in efforts to save lives. It is common for stories of exceptional outcomes to begin with accounts of the expert, calm, and deliberate guidance and instruction provided by a telecommunicator to a person at the emergency scene. All the while, there is intricate coordination in the background to ensure that the most appropriate next echelon of care arrives promptly and has what it needs. In Maryland, this often includes the work of the Emergency Medical Resource Center (EMRC) and Systems Communications (SYSCOM).

This year, from April 14-20, 2024, please join MIEMSS in recognizing 9-1-1 call-takers and dispatchers across Maryland and nationwide for the critical role they play in saving lives and keeping our communities safe. ■



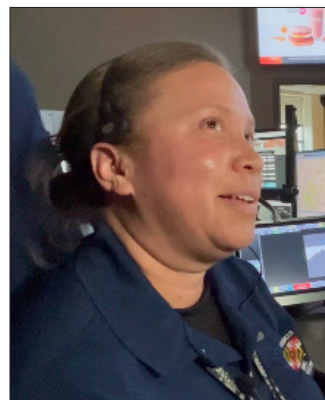
"WE ARE THE first first responders."

CAROL
LEAD OPERATOR,
EMRC/SYSCOM



"YOU HAVE TO BE able to think on your feet quickly."

STEPHEN
OPERATOR,
EMRC/SYSCOM



"I LOVE WHAT I DO. I wake up excited to start the day and see what the state has to throw at me."

NICOLETTE
OPERATOR,
EMRC/SYSCOM

Scan or click on the QR code below for a special National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week 2024 message from MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge, as well as EMRC/SYSCOM staff interviews:





American College of Surgeons
Point/Counterpoint Conference
XLI

May 2-3, 2024

Baltimore Marriott, Inner Harbor at Camden Yards
110 South Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Register NOW



<https://mdcot.com/point-counterpoint-xli-2024/>



ACS / AMERICAN COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS

<https://mdcot.org>

R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER**RACSTC Supports Maryland EMS, MSFA Partnerships**

THE R ADAMS COWLEY SHOCK TRAUMA CENTER (RACSTC) was happy to be able to attend both the Winterfest EMS Conference (February 2-4, 2024, in Easton) and the Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar (March 8-9, 2024, at Rocky Gap Casino Resort, in Flintstone). Dr. Rishi Kundi, MD, Director of the Shock Trauma GO TEAM, presented on the GO TEAM at Winterfest. Members of our EMS liaison team were available to talk about Shock Trauma and the ways in which we are available to support our EMS colleagues. Many expressed interest in observing with us – we look forward to meeting you at Shock Trauma within the next few months. Please feel free to reach out to us at STCEMS@umm.edu with any questions, concerns, observation requests of patient follow up enquiries.



On March 10, 2024, RACSTC hosted the Maryland State Firemen's Association's Safety Committee meeting. The educational safety meeting concluded with a tour of the Shock Trauma Center for committee members in attendance. Following the meeting, the committee headed over to MIEMSS to conclude their day. ■



PLEASE CONSIDER partnering with the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma

Center (RACSTC) in its mission to teach every person in Maryland the potentially lifesaving skills required to stop bleeding. RACSTC provides free Stop the Bleed classes to the public and values your assistance in teaching these skills. For further information, please contact: Katie Meyers, EMT-B, Stop the Bleed Project Coordinator, RACSTC Center for Injury Prevention & Policy, (410) 328-4042(O), (410) 935-9221(c), kmeyers@umm.edu.

Upcoming Stop the Bleed Classes

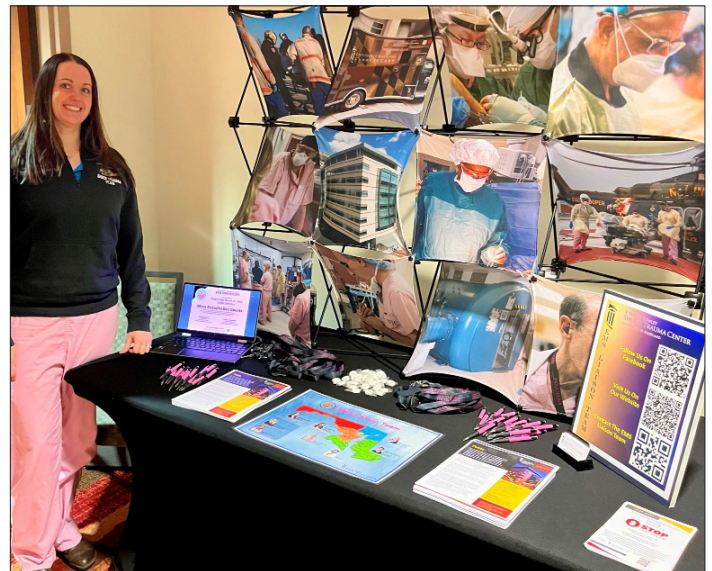
April 8: Pikesville High School (0800–1000)

May 8: Aberdeen Proving Ground (0800–1500)

Please contact STCStopthebleed@umm.edu if you are able to assist. Mark your calendars for national Stop the Bleed Day (May 23, 2024). More information on this may be found at www.mdcot.com/stop-the-bleed.



Cyndy Rivers (left) and Becky Gilmore attend Winterfest EMS. [Photo: RACSTC]



Heidi Halterman attends the Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar. [Photo: RACSTC]



The Maryland State Firemen's Association Safety Committee tours the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. [Photo: RACSTC]

MARYLAND COMMITTEE ON TRAUMA PRESENTS



NATIONAL STOP THE BLEED® DAY 2024

Thursday, May 23, 2024

8am-6pm at Baltimore Peninsula

FREE TRAINING FOR ALL MARYLANDERS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO LEARN LIFE-
SAVING TECHNIQUES FOR BLEEDING
CONTROL

**SAVE
A
LIFE**

**FREE PERSONAL STOP
THE BLEED KIT FOR ALL
PRE-REGISTERED
ATTENDEES!!**

SCAN FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
AND MORE INFO:



www.mdcot.com/stop-the-bleed

The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Meritus Health
UM Capital Region Medical
Center
Johns Hopkins
Children's Center
Sinai Hospital
Children's National
Medical Center

This event is proudly presented by:



**BALTIMORE
PENINSULA**

UM R Adams Cowley Shock
Trauma Center
Johns Hopkins Bayview
Medical Center
UPMC- Western Maryland
Suburban Hospital
Tidal Health



THE 19TH MILTENBERGER

March 8-9, 2024
Rocky Gap Casino Resort
Flintstone, Maryland

EMERGENCY SERVICES SEMINAR



Former paramedic, journalist, and author Kevin Hazzard (American Sirens: The Incredible Story of the Black Men Who Became America's First Paramedics) delivered the keynote presentation.



Each year, Miltenberger's wide variety of programming topics draws a diverse array of Fire, EMS, and Nursing personnel from across the state.



"MILTENBERGER
is very unique in that we are a regional conference, but we have assets from all over the state that come and join us for educational purposes."

WAYNE TIEMERSMA
MIEMSS REGIONS I & II
COORDINATOR



Scan or click on the QR code above for more Miltenberger highlights



MIEMSS ON THE MOVE

Linthicum Named MIEMSS Deputy Director



RANDY A. LINTHICUM, MS, NRP, CEM
MIEMSS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

RANDY A. LINTHICUM, MS, NRP, CEM, has been named Deputy Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS). In his new role, Linthicum will serve by extension as a representative of the Executive Director, assisting with the operations and leadership of the agency.

“Randy is a proven collaborator who consistently challenges MIEMSS and its team to do their best work,” says MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge. “In his new role, he will help us maintain a productive trajectory that benefits the state’s EMS system. I look forward to his leadership and working closely with him.”

A California native, Linthicum

began his EMS career in the San Francisco Bay area in 1987. He worked as a paramedic and EMS field supervisor in California’s Central Valley for 24 years. He also worked for a county-level EMS agency and the California EMS Authority before relocating to Maryland.

Linthicum joined MIEMSS in 2011 as Director of Emergency Operations. For the last two years, he led the EMS Preparedness and Operations Divisions, which included regional and EMRC/SYSCOM operations. ■

MIEMSS Hosts 29th Annual EMS Medical Directors Symposium

STATE EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR Dr. Timothy Chizmar (*at right, with microphone*), Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders, and State Aeromedical Director Dr. Douglas Floccare joined a delegation of MIEMSS leadership, including Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge, in attending the 29th Annual EMS Medical Directors Symposium on April 10, 2024, at the Fire Mark Building in Millersville, Maryland. EMS Medical Directors from across the state turned out for updates on EMS Quality Improvement, Whole Blood, and more, as well as a keynote address from nationally renowned EMS attorney and consultant Douglas Wolfberg, JD. ■



American Trauma Society, Maryland Division Honors Beachley and Soderstrom for Injury Prevention Efforts



THE AMERICAN TRAUMA SOCIETY, MARYLAND DIVISION (ATS-MD) bestowed Distinguished Achievement Awards upon Mary Beachley, MS, RN, and Carl A. Soderstrom, MD, FACS, for their injury prevention efforts and dedicated support of Maryland's Trauma and EMS System during a special presentation held March 20, 2024, at Harry Browne's Restaurant in Annapolis, Maryland. ATS-MD emphasized Soderstrom's research and expertise on the role of alcohol and its effects on unintentional injury, as well as Beachley's notable dedication to the care of injured patients. [Above left: Carl A. Soderstrom, MD, FACS, accepted his ATS-MD Distinguished Achievement Award, presented by Kim Auman, via video link. Above right: MIEMSS Trauma & Injury Specialty Care Program Director Elizabeth Wooster (left) presented the ATS-MD Distinguished Achievement Award to Mary Beachley, MS, RN.] ■



PARAMEDIC RYAN STACEY of the Ocean City Fire Department narrates a video update for the upcoming 2024 *Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services*, which take effect July 1. For more information about the Maryland EMS Protocols, scan or click on the QR code at right. ■



SAVE THE DATE



**WELCOME FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND COME WALK WITH US
AS WE WALK FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT.**

2024 MSFA&LA CANCER SUPPORT WALK

For an Evening Stroll Through Annapolis

SUNDAY – APRIL 28, 2024

NOTE THE NEW TIME:

REGISTRATION/CHECK IN BEGINS AT 3:00pm

PROGRAM/WALK BEGINS AT 4:00pm

LOCATION MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE SERVICES MEMORIAL

This year we have a great opportunity to not only support our members who have been diagnosed with cancer but also something very special to us all a great opportunity to support the Memorial with an After the Walk party at Stan and Joes where there will be dinner and drink specials that night.



Walker Donation \$25.00 a person

Questions please contact:

Teresa Ann Crisman tacrisman@hotmail.com or 240-882-6772


*To register, go to www.MSFA.org,
or scan or click on the QR code at right:*





EMS FOR CHILDREN

Heatstroke: Kids, Heat, and Cars Don't Mix



CPS for Children
Child Passenger Safety and
Occupant Protection Health Care Project

Pediatric Vehicular Heatstroke: The how, why and what to do as bystanders, parents, healthcare providers and CPSTs

August 11, 2022

As of August 2, 2022, thirteen U.S. children have died from pediatric vehicular heatstroke. And summer is not over.

In this webinar, Katie Donnelly, MD, MPH from Children's National Medical Center will cover the unique physiology of children's responses to heat, the treatment for overheated children, and why cars are so dangerous to kids. She will also address the critical steps to take if you find a child left alone in a car and overheating, and tips for educating caregivers to prevent this problem. CPSTs will also learn tips for integrating pediatric vehicular heatstroke prevention into their car safety seat checks and activities.



Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
cps@miemss.org

MAY 1 IS NATIONAL HEATSTROKE AWARENESS DAY, when many injury prevention organizations and federal agencies seek to alert the public to the risk of heatstroke for children alone in a vehicle. However, heatstroke is a risk to children 366 days in 2024 (leap year).

MIEMSS' EMS for Children and its Child Passenger Safety Healthcare Project have an online training module that covers the unique physiology of children's responses to heat, the treatment for overheated children, and why cars are so dangerous to kids. Katie Donnelly, MD, MPH, from Children's National Medical Center will also address the critical steps to take if you find a child left alone in a car and overheating, as well as tips for educating caregivers to prevent this problem. Safety advocates will also learn tips for integrating pediatric vehicular heatstroke prevention into their community events using the outdoor temperature displays available in Maryland.

This program offers one (1) hour of Continuing EMS Education. Visit <https://www.emsonlinetraining.org/> to learn more.

To reserve the outdoor temperature display for your event, scan or click on the QR code at right. ■





Asking whether my patient had been pregnant in the last year may have helped save her life.

Life-threatening complications can happen up to a year after pregnancy. Most pregnancy-related deaths are preventable.

Ask whether your patient is pregnant or was pregnant in the last year.

Connect her to the care she needs right away.



Learn more at: ods.gov/heartier



Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's (MDOT MVA)

Maryland Highway Safety Office

The MDOT MVA Highway Safety Office (MHSO) is dedicated to saving lives and working with many partners across the State to reduce the number of crashes each year. In addition, the MHSO looks for ways to reduce crash severity and ways to treat crash victims easier and faster.

Maryland aims to reduce the number of crashes, and the resulting deaths and injuries, to zero by 2030.

Work Zone Safety is a Job for All of Us

For many Marylanders, traveling on our roads is a daily or near-daily occurrence. Our roads get you to work, to family, to sports, to hobbies, and back home again. The ability to travel safely—for roads to be well maintained and free of litter, debris, and disabled vehicles—is one that much of the public takes for granted. This diligent work is carried out by thousands of people in numerous careers whose offices *ARE* our streets, roads, and highways.



Road workers, law enforcement, firefighters, emergency services, tow truck drivers, disabled motorists—they all depend on us to keep them safe. Whether it's road construction, litter collection, a traffic crash, or a tire change, these situations all create an active work zone. All drivers must be on alert for reductions in speed and the need for potential lane changes.

April 15-19 is [National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week](#). We ask you to join us as we work to raise awareness for work zone safety so that we can ensure that everyone working and driving on our roads each day makes it home.

Impairment and Driving Don't Mix

When we think of impaired driving, alcohol is the substance that immediately comes to mind, but alcohol is far from the only thing that could cause you to be impaired behind the wheel.

Alcohol, cannabis, prescription medications, and even drowsy driving, can impair your ability to drive a vehicle safely. Those effects only increase when more than one of those factors is involved.

While we all know it is illegal to drive under the influence of alcohol or cannabis, impairment by prescription or over-the-counter medications or drowsiness can be just as dangerous as your reaction and judgment are similarly compromised.

Impaired driving — in any form — is deadly.

If you are concerned you might be impaired, don't risk driving. It's not worth the risk to your life or the lives of others on the road. Thankfully you have options:

- Use Public Transportation
- Call a Rideshare or Taxi Service
- Call a Friend or Family Member

If you're on a lengthy drive and find yourself in a position where you're too tired to continue, it's okay to stop and rest until you're once again able to drive safely.

Remember, together we can all get there safely!



EMS Compliance Update

THE STATE EMS BOARD is authorized to take disciplinary action against clinicians who engage in prohibited conduct to safeguard the integrity of the EMS system. COMAR 30.02.04.01 lists conduct which is prohibited.

Below is a sample of actions the EMS Board has taken from January to March, 2024, as a result of prohibited conduct. For more information, contact Lisa Chervon, Chief of the MIEMSS Office of Integrity, at lchervon@miemss.org or (410) 706-2339. Additionally, MIEMSS maintains a searchable database of all EMS Board decisions at <https://www.miemss.org/home/public>, which can be found under Public Orders Report in the left-hand column.

■ **IRC23-035** (EMT) *January 23, 2024*. The EMT provided a urine sample for drug test ordered by the EMT's EMS operational program, after being sent for lateness counseling. On July 18, 2023, test results were confirmed as positive for oxycodone and oxymorphone. The EMT was subsequently placed on suspension by the EMT's EMS operational program for 29 working days, and was enrolled in the BCFD Aftercare Contract. As a result of the above findings, the EMT's certification was placed on probation for two (2) years from the date of the Final Decision and the EMT will be subject to random testing at his expense, or through his EMS operational program, with results submitted to MIEMSS.

■ **IRC23-048** (EMT) *January 23, 2024*. On August 14, 2023, the EMT produced a positive urinalysis test result for cocaine, benzodiazepines, and amphetamines as a result of testing ordered by the EMT's EMS operational program. The EMT was subsequently placed on suspension by the EMT's EMS operational program. As a re-

sult of the above findings, the EMT's certification was placed on probation for two (2) years from the date of the Final Decision, with the requirement that the EMT continue drug treatment and be subject to random testing at his expense, or through his EMS operational program, with results submitted to MIEMSS.

■ **IRC23-045** (EMT) *January 23, 2024*. On June 1, 2023, the EMT tested positive for alcohol when administered a random drug and alcohol test ordered by the EMT's EMS operational program. As a result of the above findings, the EMT's certification was placed on probation for two (2) years from the date of the Final Decision. Additionally, the EMT must submit proof of completion of an evaluation for drug and alcohol use disorder, at his expense, and with a provider pre-approved by MIEMSS, within 30 days of the Final Decision. If indicated by the evaluation, the EMT must participate in continued drug and alcohol treatment, with random testing at the EMT's expense as a condition of his probation. If the EMT fails to complete the required evaluation within the timeframe allotted, the EMT's certification will be suspended.

■ **IRC23-032** (EMT) *February 24, 2024*. In 2022, the EMT pled guilty to the crime of Theft Scheme \$100 to Less Than \$1,500. The EMT was sentenced on October 25, 2022, to unsupervised probation before judgement for a period of one (1) year. The EMT was also ordered to complete 50 hours of community service, and pay restitution in the amount of approximately \$330. Additionally, the EMT failed to disclose this disposition upon Application for EMT certification renewal submitted in June 2023. As a result of the above findings, the EMT's certification was placed on probation

through the expiration of the EMT's certification cycle, which is July 31, 2026. Also, the EMT was reprimanded for failure to disclose.

■ **IRC23-034** (EMT) *February 24, 2024*. During the period spanning January 1, 2023, through February 28, 2023, the EMT provided emergency medical services on numerous occasions without a current and valid EMT certification. As a result of the above findings, the EMT was reprimanded.

■ **IRC23-047** (Paramedic) *February 24, 2024*. Disposition Agreement: On multiple incidents, the Paramedic failed to provide care in accordance with appropriate protocols and standards of care while acting as a Paramedic in Harford County, Maryland. On December 13, 2023, the EMS Board issued a Noncompliance Notice to the Paramedic, proposing that the Paramedic's ALS license be revoked for having engaged in prohibited conduct, as defined in COMAR 30.02.04.01 M. The Paramedic requested a hearing. By way of a Disposition Agreement, the parties agreed to the following: The Paramedic's license will be placed on probation and will be prohibited from acting as an independent ALS clinician until the remediation described in the Agreement has been completed, as determined by MIEMSS; the Paramedic will successfully complete Advanced Medical Life Support and Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals courses and provide evidence of their successful completion of the courses to MIEMSS; obtain an affiliation with an EMS Operational Program and complete the EMS Operational Program's ALS clearance process; complete 25 precepted ALS calls, five (5) of which shall be cardiac

COMPLIANCE...

(Continued from page 13)

priority 1 or 2 calls, and five (5) of which shall be pediatric priority 1 or 2 calls. The Paramedic is responsible for ensuring that MIEMSS receives reports on their progress toward completion of the precepted ALS calls. If MIEMSS acknowledges that the Paramedic has successfully completed the remediation described in this Agreement, the Paramedic shall then be allowed to function independently as a Paramedic, and the Paramedic's license shall continue on probation for a period of two (2) years following acknowledgement by MIEMSS that they have completed their remediation. The Paramedic agrees that if they do not successfully complete the remediation described above within nine (9) months of the date of this Agreement, the Paramedic will surrender their Paramedic's license to the EMS Board.

■ **IRC23-039** (EMT) *February 24, 2024*. Disposition Agreement: The EMT has failed to meet the terms of a previous Disposition Agreement entered into in October 2022 in case no. IRC22-016 because he failed to continue outpatient treatment and therapy. In May 2023, the EMT was involved in an incident of unprofessional conduct involving another vehicle, while the EMT was driving an ambulance in the course of his employment with a commercial ambulance service. On December 13, 2023, the EMS Board issued a Noncompliance Notice to the EMT proposing to revoke the EMT's certificate, due to his having engaged in prohibited conduct, as defined in COMAR 30.02.04.01C and Y; and the EMT requested a hearing on this matter. By way of a Disposition Agreement, the parties agree as follows: the EMT agrees to surrender his EMT

certificate to the EMS Board. The EMS Board agrees to accept the surrender.

■ **IRC23-027** (Paramedic) *March 7, 2024*. Disposition Agreement: The Paramedic failed to meet or violated appropriate protocols or standards of care for the delivery of quality emergency medical services on numerous occasions, dating back to November 2021, while providing emergency medical services under the direction of the Washington County, Maryland, EMS Operational Program. On

December 13, 2023, the EMS Board issued a noncompliance notice to the Paramedic, proposing to revoke the Paramedic's license, due to their having engaged in prohibited conduct, as defined in COMAR 30.02.04.01M. The Paramedic requested a hearing on this matter. By way of a Disposition Agreement, the parties agreed to the following: The Paramedic agreed to surrender their license to the EMS Board; the EMS Board accepts the surrender of the Paramedic's license. ■



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (MDERS) is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 2024 Maryland-National Capital Regional Emergency Response System Symposium: Adapting to Emerging Threats: Essential Insights for Homeland Security and

Public Safety Leaders.

This year's symposium promises to be enriching, featuring presentations from subject matter experts from governmental and academic institutions on a range of emerging homeland security topics:

- Emerging Technologies in Homeland Security
- Transnational Threats and Global Security Challenges
- Integrating Climate Change Resilience and Disaster Response
- Hospital Case Study: Planning for a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Involving Patients with Penetrating Trauma

To accommodate a broader range of discussions, this year's event will span two days. The details of the event are as follows:

Date: May 1 – 2, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m

To register for the event, go to <https://mders.org/2024-maryland-ncr-emergency-response-system-virtual-symposium/>, or scan or click on the QR code at right.



Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Hannah Thomas, Senior Emergency Response Specialist, at Hannah.Thomas1@maryland.gov or Oscar Coripuna, Emergency Response Specialist, at Oscar.Coripuna@Maryland.gov.



MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

MedStar Montgomery Medical Center Tabletop

~ Initial response and unified command to an active assailant ~

IN RECENT YEARS, medical facilities have experienced an uptick of threats and violent events. Within this increased threat landscape, it is imperative that medical facilities and emergency response agencies jointly prepare for active assailant incidents. The Maryland-National Capital Region Emergency Response System (MDERS) facilitated a Tabletop (TTX)-in-a-Box with partners from MedStar Montgomery Medical Center (MMC), Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services (MCFRS), Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (OEMHS), and Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD). The exercise was designed to examine the initial actions of each participating entity and their ability to establish a Unified Command (UC) during an active assailant incident. This exercise will help bolster the response capabilities for each discipline to respond to an active assailant incident in a medical setting.

To test each discipline's response capabilities, participating agencies determined that a discussion based TTX would be the best approach. MDERS's TTX-in-a-Box program is a systematic, scalable, and economical approach for developing and enhancing critical capabilities that foster interdisciplinary and interjurisdictional collaboration and coordination. The tool consists of



[Photo: MDERS]

a portable kit containing all materials required to run the hybrid exercise. For these exercises, work groups are formed and comprised of subject matter experts (SMEs) from relevant disciplines. In this exercise, the work group consisted of SMEs from MMC, MCFRS, OEMHS, and MCPD. The work group provided invaluable input to craft a scenario to test the participants' ability to adequately respond to an active assailant incident occurring in a hospital setting.

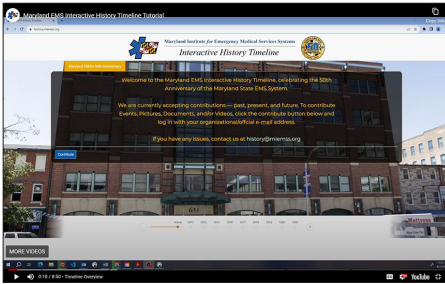
Eleven participants served as players during the exercise and were joined by over 45 observers. The exercise was guided by injects from a master scenario exercise list (MSEL) to simulate a realistic, continuous flow of information. Participants had to sift through pertinent and irrelevant information

to determine the appropriate response in a dynamic situation. In the early stages of the exercise, each entity was responding within the framework of their discipline-specific policies and plans. As the scenario progressed, the entities formed a UC to make collaborative decisions and delegate tasks to the appropriate agency.

Overall, this exercise produced useful conversations about communication channels between participating agencies, triage care to victims, establishing a unified command, positioning of fire and police staging areas, dissemination of information to the public, reunification processes, reestablishment of healthcare within the facility, and patient movement to other

¹ Glatter, R., & Papadakos, P. (n.d.). *The Epidemic of Violence in American Hospitals* [Review of *The Epidemic of Violence in American Hospitals*]. Time.com; Time. Retrieved February 13, 2024, from <https://time.com/6337450/the-epidemic-of-violence-in-american-hospitals/>

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Prevention

THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA) has prepared materials for use by law enforcement and public safety personnel for the following upcoming public safety and prevention campaigns:

■ **National Heatstroke Prevention Day (May 1, 2024).** Nearly every state in the United States has been affected by a pediatric vehicular heatstroke death. Use this campaign material to help educate parents and caregivers about the dangers of hot cars, including children getting trapped in an unlocked vehicle, being forgotten or mistakenly left, or purposely left. Material also includes safety information for bystanders to safely remove a child from a hot car. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/child-safety/vehicular-heatstroke-prevention>

■ **National Bicycle Safety Month (May 2024).** Communication is a key part of bicycle safety programs. You can use this material to help spread awareness and educate the public about bicycle safety. Be sure your bicycle safety communication plan includes driver behavior messaging and the importance for bicyclists wearing a helmet. Many assets are available in Eng-

lish and Spanish. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/bicycle-safety>

■ **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month (May 2024).** Millions of people across the United States ride motorcycles – some as a primary or secondary form of transportation, and others as a leisure ride. You can use this material as part of your communication plan to promote motorcycle safety – for motorcyclists and drivers. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/motorcycle-safety>

■ **National Mobilization: Click It or Ticket (May 13 – June 2, 2024).** *Click It or Ticket* is a national high-visibility enforcement campaign that focuses specifically on the consequences of not wearing a seat belt while urging riders to always buckle up. Material created for this campaign highlights law enforcement's goal of encouraging drivers and passengers to wear seat belts and to spread awareness about the increased police presence on our nation's roads during this period, including Memorial Day Weekend. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/seat-belt-safety/click-it-or-ticket>. ■

MDERS...

(Continued from page 15)

healthcare facilities. These conversations will continue between partners to resolve identified gaps to enhance response operations.

MDERS remains committed to providing ongoing exercise support to our stakeholders in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. These exercises are tailored to bolster response

capabilities and fortify the resilience of our communities. Through these ongoing efforts, our goal is to ensure readiness and efficiency in handling emergencies while safeguarding the well-being of our residents. ■