

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

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July 2017

MIEMSS Staff Attend 125th Annual MSFA Convention

MIEMSS Licensure and Certification, Educational Support Services, and EMS for Children, along with Safe Kids Maryland and RISK WATCH, recently participated in the 125th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) in Ocean City. EMS for Children coordinated the Safe Kids Maryland and RISK WATCH "Steps to Safety" interactive display, this year featuring an Emergency Ready Family display and workshop. Information about the Emergency Ready Family program and resources to help families prepare for a 9-1-1 call or emergency department visit are available on www.miemss.org/home/emsc/fan-emergency-ready-families. Handouts and train the trainer slide sets will be available online in early fall 2017.

A number of fire/EMS providers were recognized at the MSFA convention for their contributions to public safety in Maryland. MIEMSS would like to congratulate all of those who were honored this year. We would also like to recognize Past President Mike Davis for a successful year as President of the MSFA and for the time and dedication he provided to members of emergency services in

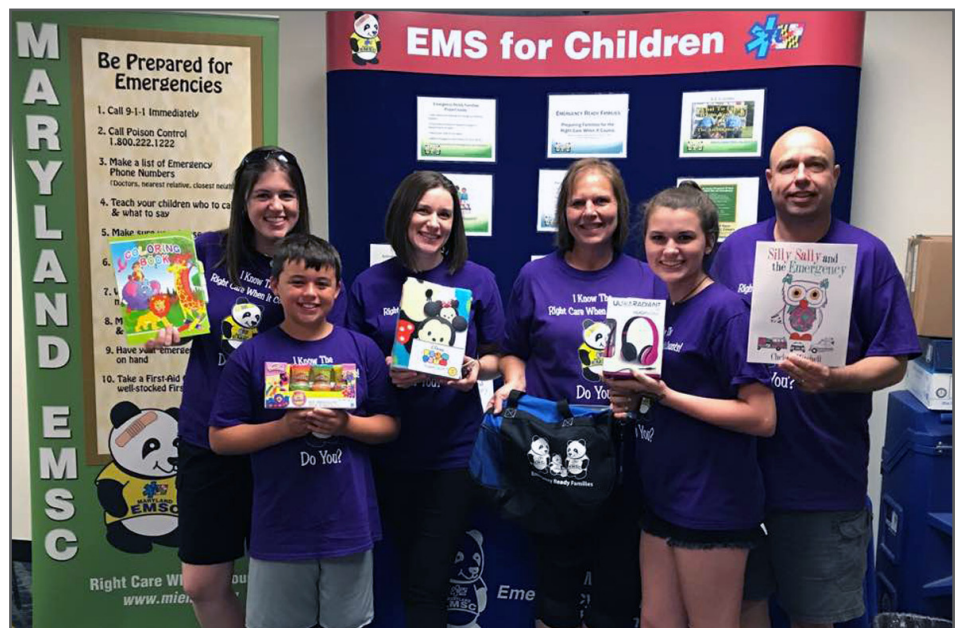
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From left, front row, Ladies Auxiliary Past President Barbara Sue Nelson and MSFA Past President Michael Davis lead the procession at the 125th annual convention's opening ceremony, which highlighted the association's history with period costumes and music.



Left, MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director Pat Gainer paused to share a photo with MSFA Past President Michael Davis following her report on MIEMSS activities to the convention attendees.



Family Advisory Network Council chair for Maryland EMSC and lead author of the Emergency Ready Family project, Mary Ellen Wilson, RN, BSN, fourth from left, and her family joined the team teaching "Steps to Safety" at this year's MSFA convention. Photo courtesy of Susanne Ogaitis-Jones.

Learning How to Stop the Bleed and Save a Life at the Beach

The US Department of Homeland Security's Stop the Bleed campaign trains and equips bystanders with tools and knowledge derived from first responder and military experience to stop life-threatening bleeding in emergency situations. The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) taught a course in these life-saving techniques to the public on Monday, June 19, 2017, during the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention in Ocean City. Instructors from MFRI's Advanced Life Support section led a live demonstration on the beach of Stop the Bleed equipment and bleeding control techniques as well as other safety demonstrations designed for citizens of all ages. This event, which took place near the Ocean City Firefighter Memorial, was free and open to the public.

The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute has joined forces with other emergency services organizations across Maryland and the nation to support this vital initiative. MFRI has equipped each of its training centers across the state with bleeding control kits alongside every public access AED, and is training instructors and EMS providers to bring this training to their communities.



Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute instructors trained members of the public in applying bleeding control techniques in Ocean City, as part of the nationwide Stop the Bleed campaign. Photos courtesy of Jennifer Williams, MFRI.

Active Assailant Tabletop Exercise Held in Kent County

On June 8, 2017, the preparedness capabilities of public officials to handle an active assailant situation were tested during a tabletop exercise held at Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company in Kent County. Rather than role-play, the exercise was limited to real-time multi-media updates, discussions, and evaluations, and focused on emergency operations coordination, information sharing, medical surge, and community recovery. The mock scenario, involving a mass shooting in a public facility, was planned, facilitated, observed, and evaluated by local, state, and private sector participants, including Chestertown Police Department, Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company, Kent and Queen Anne's Rescue Squad, Kent County Health Department, Kent County Office of Emergency Services, Kent County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police, and Shore Regional Health. Funding for the exercise was provided by Maryland Department of Health's Office of Preparedness and Response.

Exercises such as these help public officials prepare to manage natural or man-made emergencies and large-scale disasters, as well as after-effects and long-term consequences of these events. Tabletop exercises, full-scale exercises, and drills help protect public health and security.

MIEMSS Licensure System Update

Maryland EMS providers, please take note of these recent updates to the MIEMSS Licensure System, accessible via www.miemssliscense.com or the Provider login button on MIEMSS' website.

- Applications available are based on the provider level on file in the MIEMSS Licensure System. For example, new applicants to Maryland EMS will see initial applications at all provider levels; EMT-level providers will see initial applications for EMD, CRT, and Paramedic, and will have access to Request to Surrender and Change of Information forms.
- Renewal applications are available based on the provider's expiration date on file in the MIEMSS Licensure System. Renewal applications will be visible in the Licensure System no less than 90 days from the provider's expiration date.
- Changes to addresses, phone numbers, and email can now be completed through the Demographics section of My Profile in the MIEMSS Licensure System. Changes to name or social security number require supporting documentation in addition to completing a Change of Information application.

Please contact the Office of Licensure and Certification at 800-762-7157 or licensure-support@miemss.org if you have any questions about these updates to the MIEMSS Licensure System.

Maryland EMS Community Mourns Loss of Richard Yinger



Richard L. Yinger

Former Maryland EMS Board member and Past President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) Richard L. Yinger passed away on July 2, 2017, at his home in Dorchester County.

Mr. Yinger was a member of Citizens Truck Company in Frederick from 1967 until 1997, in addition to having served as President of the MSFA from 1994 to 1995. Following the end of his term at the MSFA, Mr. Yinger was appointed to the Maryland EMS Board, where he served until 2004.

"Richard served as a valued member of the EMS Board," said Donald L. DeVries, Esq., Chair of the Maryland EMS Board. "He played an integral role on the Statewide Helicopter Replacement Committee during his time on the Board. He ensured the interests of Maryland's volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue communities were well represented."

Acting Co-Executive Director of MIEMSS Richard Alcorta, MD, also remarked on Mr. Yinger's contributions to Maryland EMS. "He was a tenacious, hardworking representative of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and he came to the table to work," said Dr. Alcorta. "I view Richard Yinger as a champion of the Maryland EMS system...I think he truly had a desire to have the best system in the world."

Mr. Yinger was a celebrated member of the fire and EMS community, having stayed active with the MSFA until his passing.

Queen Anne's County Receives MICH Grant

Queen Anne's County Department of Health has received a \$400,000 grant from health insurer CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield for their Mobile Integrated Community Health (MICH) Program. The MICH program offers

free visits to county residents, over the age of 18, who have been identified through 9-1-1 calls or other services as having health care needs that can be met by skilled EMS and Health Department professionals.

Patients who participate in the program are offered a home visit by a nurse and a paramedic as well as a televisit with a pharmacist to assess their needs. The visit may include a review of past medical history, a limited physical assessment, a medication review, a home safety check, and health education. The health care team may also recommend resources for accessing transportation, finding a primary care provider, obtaining health insurance, and getting in touch with other community agencies that may be able to provide further assistance.

Dr. Joseph Ciotola, Jr., MIEMSS Jurisdictional Medical Director for Queen Anne's County and county health officer, was a driving force when the program was first launched in 2014. Dr. Ciotola accepted the grant on behalf of the county's health department during a presentation on June 27, 2017.

For more information about the Queen Anne's County MICH Program, visit health.maryland.gov/qahealth/sitepages/community-health/MICH.aspx.



From left, MIEMSS Region IV Administrator John Barto, Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services (QACDES) Director Scott Haas; QACDES Assistant Chief Scott Wheatley; MICH team members Andrew Hughes and Zach Yerkie; MICH Program Administrator Jared Smith; and QAC County Health Officer Dr. Joseph Ciotola, Jr. attended the June 27 grant presentation. Photo courtesy of Teresa Kimbles, Queen Anne's County Department of Health.

Anne Arundel's Confined Space Rescue Team Frees Trapped Canine

Many thanks to Captain Russ Davies, Anne Arundel County Fire Department, for contributing to this story.

Members of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department, assisted by Annapolis City firefighters, successfully rescued a dog after he had fallen into a sinkhole on May 13, 2017, in Edgewater, Maryland. Around 11:50 am, firefighters received a call reporting an 85-pound Collie named Siri had fallen into a six to eight foot hole measuring only about two feet in diameter. Members of the Special Operations Confined Space Rescue Team successfully removed Siri, apparently uninjured, in about 90 minutes. Great job to all involved in this rescue!



Vacancy on Protocol Review Committee for Volunteer BLS Provider

The position of "Volunteer BLS Provider," as designated by COMAR, is currently vacant on MIEMSS' Protocol Review Committee. Interested volunteer Basic Life Support (BLS) providers should apply to their local jurisdictional medical director by **Friday, July 28, 2017**, in order to be considered for the position. Applications from jurisdictional medical directors, which can be in the form of a letter, should include this information about the applicant:

1. Contact information, including email address
2. Length of time as a BLS provider
3. Unique qualifications such as training, instructor qualifications, committee member, etc.
4. Any other information applicant deems relevant for consideration for this position

The selected candidate will serve four years from date of appointment. Six meetings are held per year, on the second Wednesday of each odd month (January, March, etc.), at MIEMSS headquarters, 653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore. A minimum attendance of four meetings per year is required; electronic attendance is available.

Please note, MIEMSS will not accept applications of interest directly from providers. You must apply through your jurisdictional medical director.



From top, members of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department and Annapolis City firefighters had to descend with ropes into the sinkhole to rescue Siri; muddy but unharmed, Siri is free from entrapment; the rescuers pose with Siri after his ordeal. Photos courtesy of Captain Russ Davies, Anne Arundel County Fire Department.

Q. I logged onto the MIEMSS Licensure System, and it shows that my EMT certification has been renewed, but I have not received my new card. Can I still ride?

A. Maryland regulation requires that whenever possible while performing EMS duties, you should carry the identification card issued by MIEMSS showing you have been licensed or certified by the EMS Board. However, if you have confirmed that your license/certification is current and in good standing in the MIEMSS Licensure System, you may provide care at the discretion of your affiliating agency. Contact the Office of Licensure and Certification at 800-762-7157 or licensure-support@miemss.org if you have any questions about carrying your certification/license card while on duty.

All EMSOPs are now contributing data to CARES. By the end of December 2017, Maryland will have one full year of comprehensive, statewide CARES data reported.

This Month's CARES Tip

It is important that the CARES registry capture every cardiac arrest and that the EMS Operational Program receive credit for that cardiac arrest management. If a patient goes into cardiac arrest before care is turned over to the hospital, the provider must record that the patient was in cardiac arrest and fill out the CARES tab on eMEDS®. Within the CARES tab, it is essential that "yes" be entered for the data element "Was resuscitation attempted by 9-1-1 provider or AED shock given prior to arrival of EMS?" This data element must equal "yes" in order for the record to be exported to CARES.

Heatstroke Deaths in US Set To Equal 2016 Statistics

As hard as it is to imagine, as of July 17, 2017, there were 23 confirmed deaths of children left alone in hot cars across the country. By the end of June in both 2016 and 2017, 16 US children had died of heatstroke in cars (www.noheatstroke.org). At this pace, 2017 may equal or surpass the total number of tragic hot car deaths confirmed last year—39.

Public officials and private citizens are on a mission to eliminate these preventable tragedies. In June 2017 several congressional legislators proposed that the US Department of Transportation mandate vehicles be equipped with a system alerting the driver if a passenger remains in the back seat after the vehicle is turned off. We know from seat belt technology that alarms can be very helpful in promoting occupant protection; if enacted, this mandate should help prevent some deaths. However, the HOT CARS Act (HR 2801) is currently only in the early stages of consideration by the US Congress. Even if passed, it will take many years to implement this technology in US vehicles. In the meantime, the best prevention is to educate yourself and the public on the risks and remedies of heatstroke in cars, and to take immediate action if you see a child alone in a vehicle.

Help prevent heatstroke to children left in cars by borrowing temperature display

Awareness and behavior modification among caregivers are key to preventing the majority of these tragic deaths. The Outdoor Stand-Up Temperature Display is an excellent tool to create awareness of how a vehicle can quickly heat up to where the inside temperatures could kill a child. The Maryland State Firemen's Association and its Ladies Auxiliary purchased this display, and donated it to Safe Kids Maryland to be used across the state. The 78" tall metal display is transported in a case that is 28"x48"x13", and requires at least two people to set up. For more details or to reserve it for your agency's use, contact cps@miemss.org.

Never leave your child alone in a car.



Your car heats up faster than you think. Help reduce the number of deaths from heatstroke by remembering to ACT.

A: Avoid heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving your child alone in a car, not even for a minute.

C: Create reminders by putting something in the back of your car next to your child such as a briefcase, a purse or a cell phone that is needed at your final destination.

T: Take action. If you see a child alone in a car, call 9-1-1.



For free copies of this 11x17" poster, email cps@miemss.org.

Spread the word: July 31 is National Heatstroke Prevention Day!

Prince George's County Fire/EMS Implements TECC

Starting in June 2017, Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department (PGFD) implemented a Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) program for all of its EMS providers. TECC represents best practices for responding to high-threat medical emergencies due to, for example, an active assailant or other mass casualty. Providing the right treatment in a timely manner, coupled with expedient evacuation when appropriate, is the key to saving lives in these events.

Tactical Emergency Casualty Care is different than tactical EMS and Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), which generally operate under the command of law enforcement and/or military. Through its three phases of care—direct threat, indirect threat, and evacuation care—TECC takes into account scope of practice and liability, patient demographics, language, legal issues, special populations, and wounding patterns that differ from TCCC. The TECC treatment program has been adopted by the National Capital Region as the appropriate program for a high-threat, civilian-based medical response. It was also used as a foundation for the recently adopted Potentially Volatile Environments with Life-Saving Interventions Protocol in *The Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers*.

Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department's TECC program is a hybrid-format educational course tailored to the needs of that agency. Instruction is delivered through online videos as well as an in-person skills session during which TECC interventions and care are practiced with the trainers. Differentiation in phases of care, tourniquet usage and placement, wound packing and hemostatic agents, situational awareness, new threat paradigms, and different high-threat response scenarios are demonstrated during the practical session. The video series is offered to other agencies and departments interested in TECC training.

The undertaking in Prince George's County to train EMS providers in TECC is also expected to help manage warm zone (indirect threat) casualty care in partnership with law enforcement during active, high-threat incidents.



Top photo, Lt. M. Buffum, a Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Instructor at Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department (PGFD), reviews wound packing, pressure dressings, and hemostatic gauze applications with a TECC student. Bottom photo, a PGFD TECC student practices tourniquet application on a high-fidelity trauma simulator mannequin. Photos courtesy of Assistant Chief M. Marino, Special Operations Commander, PGFD.

Disciplinary Actions

The following final disciplinary actions were taken by the EMS Board on the dates indicated:

B-2016-784 (EMT) – September 21, 2016. For sexual harassment of female members of his volunteer fire company, including Junior members, which involved creating a culture in which female members were pressured for sex and subjected to repeated, multiple displays of inappropriate sexual behavior: Provider's certification was revoked.

B-2016-778 (EMT) – November 17, 2016. For pleading guilty and serving two years supervised probation for failing to return to and remain at the scene of a crash involving an attended vehicle, and subsequently completing an alcohol rehabilitation program: Provider was placed on probation for three years with random drug and alcohol testing at Provider's expense with results sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2016-774 (Paramedic) – December 6, 2016. For violating prior probation: Provider's license was revoked.

B-2016-796 (EMT) – January 30, 2017. For receiving probation before judgment and serving 12 months supervised probation for driving while impaired by alcohol: Provider was placed on probation for one year with random alcohol testing at Provider's expense with reports sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2016-779 (EMT) – January 30, 2017. For pleading guilty and ordered to serve three years supervised probation for obtaining prescriptions by fraud: Provider was suspended until he submits documentation of successful completion of a rehabilitation program and a negative alcohol and drug test. Provider will then be placed on probation for three years with random alcohol testing at Provider's expense with reports sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2016-795 (EMT) – January 30, 2017. For testing positive for a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) and subsequently completing a drug rehabilitation and sobriety program: Provider was placed on probation for three years with random drug and alcohol testing at Provider's expense with reports sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2016-772 (EMT) (Applicant) – January 30, 2017. For pleading guilty and serving one year supervised probation for theft less than \$100: the certification process was allowed to proceed, and if certified, the Applicant shall be placed on probation through the initial certification period.

B-2017-816 (EMT) – April 11, 2017. For engaging in prohibited conduct: Provider voluntarily surrendered his EMT certification on January 28, 2017.

B-2016-794 (EMT) – April 27, 2017. For pleading guilty and receiving probation before judgement (PBJ) for driving under the influence of alcohol per se, having successfully completed his criminal probation, but failing to inform MIEMSS of the PBJ upon renewal: Provider was reprimanded.

B-2016-800 (EMT) – April 27, 2017. For presenting fraudulent records relating to completion of clinical training required to complete Baltimore County's Advanced Life Support training program required for MIEMSS' CRT licensure: Provider was reprimanded and placed on probation for three years with quarterly reports from her supervisor sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2017-805 (CRT) – April 27, 2017. For receiving PBJ for driving while impaired by alcohol and serving 12 months supervised probation: Provider was placed on probation for one year with random drug and alcohol testing at Provider's expense with reports sent to the MIEMSS Compliance Office.

B-2016-790 (EMT) – May 8, 2017. For testing positive for opiates and barbituates while on duty, and subsequently being found unconscious in a car with his child in the rear seat and being charged with possession of CDS—not marijuana, possession of CDS paraphernalia, and reckless endangerment, and subsequent to a hearing for the Office of Administrative Hearings: Provider's certification was revoked.

B-2016-787 (Paramedic) – (by Disposition Agreement) April 11, 2017. For unprofessional conduct consisting of disabling the onboard camera and GPS system and using an ambulance for his personal purpose: Provider's paramedic license was suspended for six months, during which time he may practice as an EMT and he must complete a medical ethics course. Subsequently, he will be on probation for one year.

B-2016-792 (CRT) – (by Disposition Agreement) April 11, 2017. For patient care concerns that could not be remediated: Provider surrendered his CRT license and was issued an EMT certificate, and was placed on probation for two years during which time he will submit quarterly reports regarding his progress towards reinstatement of his CRT license.

B-2016-793 (CRT) – (by Disposition Agreement) April 11, 2017. For patient care concerns that were remediated: Provider was reprimanded, placed on probation for the remainder of his licensure period, and required to submit a paper addressing the importance of documenting refusals, differential diagnosis, and equipment checks in EMS practice.

Statewide eLicensure Steering Committee Forming

MIEMSS is forming a statewide "eLicensure" steering committee to develop recommendations to modify and improve MIEMSS' web-based Licensure System (www.miemsslicense.com). Representatives from EMS Operational Programs, commercial services, and EMS education programs are appointed by their highest jurisdictional authorities. They have assigned roles within their organizations that require the use of the MIEMSS Licensure System and possess an understanding of their organization's needs within the system. Appointed individuals are voting members of the committee.

All meetings are open, and individuals not assigned a representative role are welcome to attend. The committee will have standing meetings every other month. The first meeting of the committee was held on Thursday July 20, 2017.

MIEMSS Staff Attend 125th Annual MSFA Convention

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Maryland. MIEMSS would like to congratulate Mark Bilger on his recent election as President of the MSFA. Also elected to MSFA leadership roles were First Vice President Rick Blair, Second Vice President Michael Faust, and new officers to the Ladies Auxiliary: President Vivian Morgan Boyd, Sr. Vice President Marcia Roth, and Jr. Vice President Lori Denbow. We look forward to working with Presidents Bilger and Boyd and the other officers in the coming year.

MIEMSS thanks all emergency services providers of Maryland for the job that they do every day in making our state a safer place to work and live.

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Seeks 2018 Hero Award Nominations

Each year the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Hero Award is presented to a group of individuals whose effort in saving a life exemplifies the very best of the elite Maryland EMS and Trauma System. The Hero Award typically honors a range of individuals who contributed to a life-saving effort, such as emergency dispatch (9-1-1) operators, field providers, Shock Trauma staff, and rehabilitation team members, among others. The Shock Trauma Center is asking for nominations that embody a story of survival that can be attributed to response time, care received in the field, and treatment by the Shock Trauma Center. Honorees will be selected from the nominations received and will be showcased at the 2018 Shock Trauma Center Gala on April 28. Visit www.umm.edu/programs/shock-trauma for Hero Award criteria and nomination forms. The deadline to submit nominations is **Monday, August 1, 2017**.

Lead the Charge. Create the:

CALL TO DUTY

RECRUITER BOOT CAMP: A Battle-Ready Briefing with Chief Recruiter Tiger Schmittendorf

Do your Recruitment & Retention efforts leave you feeling like you've lost the battle and the war?
Are you ready to call in reinforcements?

How to Win the Hand-to-Hand Combat of Volunteer Recruitment & Retention:

Recon: Know Your Enemy

- ☆ Scout Out Hostile Environments and Hunt Down WMDs: Weapons of Membership Destruction

Strike First with a Three-Pronged Attack:

- ☆ Establish a RecruitmentHQ Forward Operating Base & Build an Army of Recruiters
- ☆ Secure an Arsenal of Best Practices in Troop Selection, Enlistment Processes and Recruiter Tactics
- ☆ Lock on to a Target Rich Environment: Decode Millennial Messaging and Win the Battle in the Trenches

Saturday-September 23, 2017 | 9am-3pm
Odenton Volunteer Fire Co. | ovfc28.org
1425 Annapolis Rd. | Odenton MD

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Governor Larry Hogan
Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

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