



# Maryland EMS News

Vol. 23, No. 4

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

July/August 1997

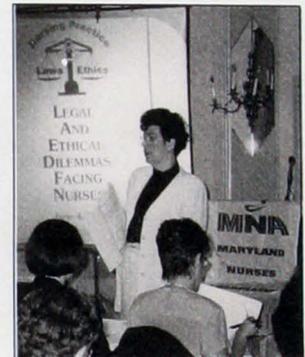
## Celebrating EMS Week in Maryland



Eddie Little, a member of Emmitsburg Ambulance Company since he was 16, gets ready to demonstrate the Maryland State Police's seat-belt convincer. The "convincer" shows what can happen to people who do not buckle up.



At the dedication of new ambulance #269 (a 1997 Freightliner), Region II Administrator Dick Mettetal presented the certificate and seal of excellence indicating that the ambulance had met the standards of the MIEMSS Voluntary Ambulance Inspection program.



Mary Beachley, Director of Hospital Programs and State Trauma Coordinator at MIEMSS, teaches a session of the workshop "Legal and Ethical Dilemmas Facing Nurses" at the Venice Inn in Hagerstown.



The Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway dedicated Fire Station No. 26 during EMS Week. Following tradition, the new ambulance is pushed into the station.



Cresaptown Volunteer Fire Department displays a fire/rescue truck and ambulance on the parking lot of the Country Club Mall, where other EMS providers exhibited during EMS Week.

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## Maryland EMS Awards

MIEMSS honored 23 award recipients around the state in two ceremonies—the first on May 15 at the Statehouse in Annapolis, and the second on May 21 at the Maryland State Highway Administration Complex in Hanover. Winners were selected by a statewide committee of people in EMS-related positions. Following a call for EMS Award nominations that



Gov. Parris N. Glendening and MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert R. Bass show the Governor's Proclamation for EMS Week 1997.



Gov. Parris N. Glendening presented an EMS Lifetime Service Award to Thurman B. Ellis who has been one of the top 10 EMS responders in Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company for 40 consecutive years.

appeared in this newsletter, 110 nominations were submitted.

**Four-year-old Sarah Miller** and **9-1-1 Dispatcher David C. Pheil** received an EMS Citizen and a Maryland Star of Life award, respectively. On March 1, 1997, Sarah phoned 9-1-1 to get help because her mother had trouble breathing. She and her 18-month-old brother were alone with their mother. Dispatcher Pheil, at the Washington County Emergency Communications Center, took the call. Keeping Sarah on the phone, he was able to calm her and reassure her that an ambulance was on the way. She was still on the phone with Dispatcher Pheil when the EMS personnel arrived to transport her mother to Washington County Hospital for treatment.



Four-year-old Sarah Miller received a Maryland EMS Citizen Award for calling 9-1-1 when her mother (shown standing in the photo) had trouble breathing. David C. Pheil (standing), the dispatcher who received her call and calmed her, received a Maryland EMS Star of Life Award. Along with her award, Sarah, who turned five the week following the awards ceremony, received a birthday card and present from Gov. Parris N. Glendening.

Because of Sarah's quick thinking and proper use of 9-1-1, her mother is alive today.

### Outstanding EMS Program Award

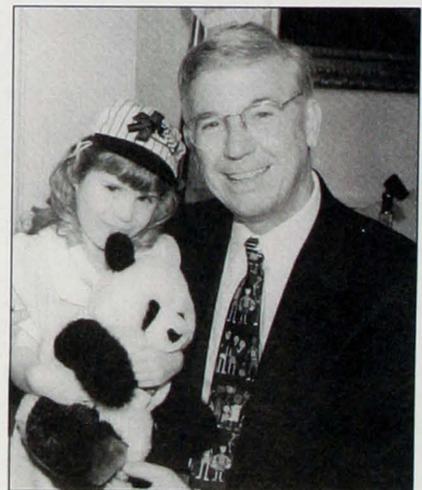
In recognition of its noteworthy Citizen CPR Program, **Howard County Fire and Rescue Services** was presented the Outstanding EMS Program Award for 1997. Their Citizen CPR Program has trained more than 1,500 citizens in adult and pediatric CPR. Sgt. Ray Olivira is the CPR Coordinator for Howard County Fire and Rescue Services.

### EMS Provider of the Year Awards

**James Koon**, who received one of this year's EMS Provider of the Year Awards, became an EMT-A in 1990 and joined the Frostburg Area Ambulance Service. He is currently an EMT-paramedic and worked with Bill Hardy, Region I Prehospital Care Coordinator, and other key individuals in Region I to refine the standard national Department of Transportation paramedic curriculum for Garrett and Allegany counties.

Mr. Koon also became actively involved in the leadership of the Frostburg Area Ambulance Service. At that time the company was facing numerous difficulties with manpower,

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Sarah Miller, shown with her Maryland EMS hat and birthday panda with his EMS logo, later shyly wanted to know the Governor's first name. She had decided to name her panda after him.

(Continued from page 2)

advanced life support coverage, and an aging and inadequate facility. When Mr. Koon was elected president of the ambulance service in 1992, he led a committee that looked at sites for a new building and incentive programs to increase membership. An existing building in Frostburg was purchased and converted into a new home for the company. During his tenure, membership in the squad has also increased, delayed calls have been reduced, and squad morale has improved.

Mr. Koon is also an extremely active EMT-P. He has responded to more than 400 ambulance calls and contributes more than 2,000 hours of service each year.

**Donald "Steve" Trice** was awarded the EMS Provider of the Year Award posthumously. Mr. Trice was 23 years old and with the Sharptown Fire Department for three years when he was killed helping an injured crash victim. Driving with his fiancée Jennifer Harrison, he saw an overturned vehicle and stopped to help. He was not on EMS duty at the time. He saw the crash victim lying in a 4-foot ditch and told his fiancée to call 9-1-1 while he entered the ditch to try to help. He and the crash victim were crushed to death when the driver of a van, swerving to avoid hitting the victim's overturned car, went

off the road and slid down the ditch. Ms. Harrison accepted the award for her fiancée.

**Charles Barton** received the EMS Provider of the Year Award in recognition of his excellence as an EMS provider and instructor in the cardiac rescue technician, advanced cardiac life support, and paramedic programs. He was nominated for the award by several former EMS students. Mr. Barton, a 16-year veteran of Ocean City EMS, originally started his career as a firefighter, following the example of his father who was a volunteer firefighter.

#### **EMS Lifetime Service Awards**

**Thurman B. Ellis**, a member of Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company since 1956, received an EMS Lifetime Service Award.

Mr. Ellis was honored for his many contributions to Maryland's EMS System. He has held numerous offices in the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company and has been one of their top 10 EMS responders for 40 consecutive years. He has been a CPR and first-aid instructor since 1960 and during those years has taught CPR classes for many community organizations. In addition, he has been in charge of the medical services for the Harford County March of Dimes Walkathon for more than 25 years. In 1988 he was inducted into the Harford-Cecil

Volunteer Firemen's Association Hall of Fame.

**Edwin G. Richards**, the Caroline County Government Administrator for 22 years, has dedicated his life to promoting the fire, rescue, and emergency medical services of Caroline County. Prior to moving to Caroline County, he was a member of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company. For his long and dedicated service, he received an EMS Lifetime Service Award.

Under his leadership, a quality EMS system was established in  
(Continued on page 4)



*Gov. Parris N. Glendening presented Charles Barton, of Berlin, an EMS Provider of the Year Award. Mr. Barton was honored for his excellence as an EMS provider and instructor in the cardiac rescue technician, advanced cardiac life support, and paramedic programs.*



*James F. Alexander (second from left) received an EMS Lifetime Service Award from Gov. Parris N. Glendening. Mr. Alexander was honored for his many contributions to EMS, including founding the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad 45 years ago and serving as its chief for 25 consecutive years. Shown with them is Mayor Frank Casula, of Laurel.*



*James Koon received an EMS Provider of the Year Award from Gov. Parris N. Glendening. Mr. Koon was recognized for his work in refining the national paramedic curriculum for Garrett and Allegany counties and for his leadership and service in the Frostburg Ambulance Service.*

## Maryland EMS Awards

(Continued from page 3)

Caroline County that serves as a state model for rural EMS systems. During his tenure, funding for fire, rescue, and EMS increased significantly, and both the Advanced Life Support and Emergency Management



An EMS Provider of the Year Award was presented posthumously to Donald "Steve" Trice who was with the Sharptown Fire Department in Wicomico County. Accepting the award from Gov. Parris N. Glendening for him is his fiancée Jennifer Harrison.



Gov. Parris N. Glendening presented an EMS Lifetime Service Award to Edwin G. Richards, the Caroline County Government Administrator. He was honored for his dedication and leadership in the fire, rescue, and EMS services in Caroline County that helped make the county a role model for rural EMS systems. Shown with them is Margaret Myers, President of the Caroline County Commissioners.

Departments were formed.

He also supported enhanced 9-1-1 systems, emergency medical dispatch, a length of service award program for county emergency volunteers, and an emergency driving program for county medic units.

**James F. Alexander**, the recipient of an EMS Lifetime Service Award, founded the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad 45 years ago and served as its chief for 25 consecutive years.

Under his leadership, Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad flourished. It was the first organization of its kind to include women in active roles. He developed an organized plan of responding to emergencies, where every member had a specific role, and implemented a mentor system.

In the 1960s, Chief Alexander formed the Marine Division to help with diving searches and the Air Division to provide fire patrol, oil slick watches on the Chesapeake Bay, and traffic information during the racing season. The Air Division also wrote a training manual for the Maryland

State Police (MSP) on helicopter operations and trained the first MSP Med-Evac medics for the first transports to the Shock Trauma Unit.

Chief Alexander supported training for squad members from the beginning. Even in 1952, all squad members were required to take and pass a first-aid course. Squad members were always among the first in the state to take advanced training when it was offered.

Under Chief Alexander, squad members entered the International First Aid and Rescue competition in 1965. During his tenure, Laurel's all-women teams captured the World Championship title four times.

Although Chief Alexander retired in 1977, he continues to provide invaluable advice and service to the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad.

### EMS Rescue, Citizen, & Special Awards Presented

**Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad, Friendsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad, Trooper 5 (Maryland State Police Aviation Division), and the Areawide Trauma Center at Memorial Hospital & Medical Center of Cumberland** received

(Continued on page 5)



MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass presented Maryland Star of Life Awards to (l-r) Paramedic Kent Schadler, Ambulance Driver Jack Doran, and Paramedic Jackie Carey for their part in the rescue of 2-year-old Stevie Parks.

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Maryland Star of Life awards for their rescue of 14-year-old Brian Roy Custer.

On October 24, 1996, Brian was squirrel hunting with a 13-year-old friend in the mountains on the Maryland/West Virginia border. They were 50 miles from the closest hospital. His friend's 20-gauge shotgun accidentally discharged, striking Brian in the abdomen from a distance of approximately six feet.

First responders from the Friendsville Volunteer Fire Department and EMT's and a paramedic from the Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad responded to the scene. Although Brian was bleeding profusely, he was conscious and alert and complaining of intense abdominal pain. After Brian was stabilized, he was transported to the Friendsville Town Park. There Trooper 5, the Med-Evac helicopter from Cumberland, which is approximately 40 miles away, was waiting to transport him to Cumberland Memorial Hospital's trauma center. Brian stayed in the hospital approximately one month. He was then transferred to the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Trauma Center for further

surgery and continued recovery.

Brian's rescue is an example of how Maryland's EMS system works every day. It involves many people working cooperatively—9-1-1 dispatchers, first responders, paramedics, Med-Evac helicopter crews, areawide trauma centers, specialty referral centers, home health nurses, and specialists. All work to bring the patient back to health.

**CRT Steven L. Hobson** received a Maryland Star of Life award. Mr. Hobson had responded to the call of a 46-year-old male who had complained of right shoulder pain prior to passing out. While transporting him, Mr. Hobson noted that he had an elevated blood pressure and was experiencing severe sweating. Steve was concerned that he might be having a heart attack. When Mr. Hobson conducted the secondary survey en route to the hospital, he noticed a pulsing abdominal mass and was concerned about the possibility of an aortic aneurysm.

When the patient arrived at the hospital, Mr. Hobson relayed the possibility of an aortic aneurysm to the emergency department staff. They quickly did an emergency sonogram that confirmed this diagnosis. As a

result of this testing, the heart attack that the patient was having was treated by emergency angioplasty rather than by thrombolytic therapy which could have worsened the patient's condition.

Mr. Hobson's assessments of the patient helped to ensure the highest quality of patient care.

**Sgt. Ronald B. Lewis (Maryland State Police) and Ken Smith (Rescue Fire Company in Cambridge)** received Maryland Star of Life awards and **Lou Hardin and Ted Polen** received Maryland EMS Citizen awards. Without the efforts of these four men, a woman who jumped off the Choptank River Bridge might not be alive today.

In May of 1996, while driving to work, Sgt. Lewis noticed a man leaning over the bridge. Stopping to investigate, he learned that a woman had just jumped from the bridge, approximately 55 feet above the water. Although he could see the woman, her face already appeared to be turning blue. Sgt. Lewis immediately requested the Eastern Barrack to send the Department of Natural Resources and the US Coast Guard for marine support and also a Maryland State Police Med-Evac helicopter. In the meantime, fire and rescue units from Dorchester County EMS began to arrive.

Not sure how long it would take support from Natural Resources or the Coast Guard to arrive and not seeing any boats in the immediate area, Sgt. Lewis went to a marina on the east side of the bridge. There he saw Lou Hardin and Ted Polen. After he explained the situation, they agreed to help and all three ran to Lou's boat. As they were approaching the young woman in the water, they saw Firefighter and EMT-B Ken Smith rappelling off the bridge. He is with Rescue Fire Company in Cambridge and captain of their dive team. He had responded to the request for the dive team and, while waiting for other team members to arrive, realized the urgency of the situation and decided to rappel off the bridge to reach the drowning victim.

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MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass congratulates Dusty, the small dog whose barking alerted the parents of 2-year-old Stevie Parks that he was drowning. Dusty is shown here with his owners, Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Hall, their daughter and mother of Stevie (middle), and their grandson Stevie.

## Maryland EMS Awards

(Continued from page 5)

Firefighter Smith and Sgt. Lewis both entered the 69-degree water to try to rescue the victim. Despite her resistance, they were able to force a life jacket on her that had been lowered from the bridge by a rope.

In the meantime, Mr. Hardin maneuvered his boat close to the victim. While rescuers on the bridge pulled on the rope attached to the life jacket, Mr. Polen, on Mr. Hardin's boat, helped Firefighter Smith and Sgt. Lewis to get the victim into the boat.



MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass presented a Maryland Star of Life Award to Steven Hobson for his rescue of a 46-year-old man who had a heart attack and an aortic aneurysm.

An ambu-bag was then lowered to them, and Sgt. Lewis gave the victim respiratory assistance. Firefighter Smith assessed her for other injuries. Upon reaching shore, the victim was transported to the Dorchester General Hospital by Dorchester County Emergency Medical Service units.

Each of the award winners went beyond the call of duty. If it were not for their courage and quick action, the woman would probably have drowned.

"Dusty," a dog belonging to Melvin and Suzanne Hall, received a Special EMS Award; **Cindi Baker** received a Maryland EMS Citizen Award; and **Paramedic Jackie Carey, Paramedic Kent Schadler, and Jack Doran (ambulance driver and EMT-B student)** received Maryland Star of Life Awards. Each of them played a part in the rescue of 2-year-old Stevie Parks.

While visiting his grandparents, Melvin and Suzanne Hall, young Stevie fell into a canal near their home in Ocean Pines. Dusty, the small black dog belonging to Stevie's grandparents, saw what happened and started barking immediately.



FF. Ken Smith and Sgt. Ronald B. Lewis receive Maryland Star of Life Awards from Dr. Robert Bass, MIEMSS Executive Director. Both Smith and Lewis were cited for their part in the rescue of a young woman from the Choptank River.

Stevie's dad ran after Dusty and saw his son floating in the canal. He pulled him from the water while other family members called 9-1-1.

In the meantime, Cindi Baker, a home health nurse visiting a patient, heard the commotion and ran up to Stevie. She started giving CPR until the advanced life support crew from Ocean Pines EMS arrived.

Jack Doran drove paramedics Jackie Carey and Kent Schadler who treated little Stevie while transporting him to Atlantic General Hospital, about 20 minutes away. The emergency department staff there stabilized Stevie and then transferred him to a Med-Evac helicopter to be flown to Johns Hopkins Hospital pediatric trauma center in Baltimore.

Today, Stevie is fine—thanks to the efforts of everyone involved, including Dusty, who, in a way, put EMS into action that day.

## Dr. Scalea Appointed

Thomas M. Scalea, MD, was recently appointed Chief of the Section of Trauma Surgery at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical Center and Professor and Head of the Division of Trauma Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Previously, Dr. Scalea was at the State University of New York (SUNY) Health Science Center at Brooklyn. There he served as chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine and professor of surgery and emergency medicine. Dr. Scalea specializes in trauma, surgical critical care, and emergency medicine, and he is board certified in surgery and critical care.

Considered a leading authority on the physiology of geriatric trauma, Dr. Scalea has written many book chapters on geriatric trauma and other related subjects in trauma. His research interests include hemodynamic responses to shock and blood loss, prognostic features predicting survival following surgical stress, and mediators of acute organ failure.



Gov. Parris N. Glendening presented the Outstanding EMS Program Award to Howard County Fire and Rescue Services for its Citizen CPR Program. Accepting the award is Sgt. Rae Oliveira, CPR Coordinator. Also shown are (l-r) MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert R. Bass and members of the Howard County Fire and Rescue Services Dr. Kevin Seaman (medical director), FF Monica Hammond, and Chief James Heller. Their Citizen CPR Program has trained more than 1,500 citizens in adult and pediatric CPR.



The Areawide Trauma Center at Cumberland Memorial Hospital and Medical Center, the Friendsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service, Trooper 5 of the Maryland State Police Aviation Division, and the Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad received Maryland Star of Life Awards for their part in the rescue of Brian Custer who was accidentally shot at close range while he was squirrel hunting. Accepting the awards for them are (l-r) Homer Hardinger, RN, Chief Terry Spear, TFC Robert Harsh, and Homer Martz, shown with MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass.

**MARK  
YOUR CALENDARS!**

**TRI-COUNTY  
EMS CONFERENCE**



**PYRAMID '97**

**SEPTEMBER 6-7, 1997**

**HOLIDAY INN  
SOLOMONS**

**SOLOMONS, MARYLAND**

This year conference participants can choose either the main conference track or the EMT-B Enhancement Program. The main conference, approved for 12.5 continuing education credits, will focus on current trends in EMS clinical care as well as the challenges facing EMS operations in the next century. The two-day EMT-B Enhancement Program will provide 12 hours in anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, and "medication" math (a review of basic math principles required for pharmacology calculations and medication delivery).

Come to Southern Maryland and enjoy the relaxed learning environment and great hospitality!

Contact the Region V Office (301-474-1485) for a brochure and more information.

*Start Thinking About. . .*

**EMS Week 1998: May 17 - 23**

**Who Will You Nominate for EMS Awards?**

# Celebrating EMS Week in Maryland

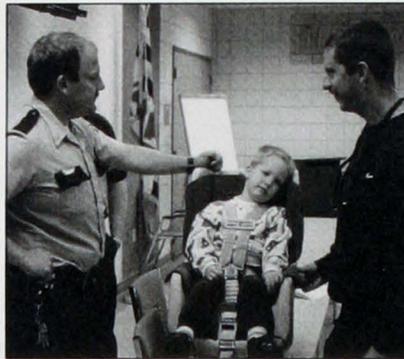
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Governor Parris N. Glendening issued a proclamation officially declaring May 18-24, 1997 as Maryland EMS Week. Throughout the state during that week, EMS providers held events that stressed public education



*By using a model house, Doug DeHaven demonstrates how quickly a bedroom fills with smoke when its door is not closed. Mr. DeHaven is a volunteer firefighter safety instructor at Children's Village in Washington County.*

about medical emergencies and injury prevention. Recognition and appreciation for the contributions of EMS providers were the focus of many other EMS Week activities. The national EMS Week theme of "EMS—Making a Difference for Life" was replayed many times. Below we list some of the many activities that



*At the Halfway Fire Department in Washington County, Officer Randy Rourke, a crime prevention officer in the Hagerstown City Police Department, illustrates the appropriate and inappropriate use of a child safety seat.*

celebrated EMS Week in Maryland.

- The EMS Committee of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association distributed 24,000 EMS tray liners with life-saving tips to all the Roy Rodgers restaurants in Frederick County. Printing of the tray liners was paid for by Frederick Memorial Hospital. The Committee also sponsored a "Hero's Day" at the Harry S. Grove Stadium (home of the Frederick Keys baseball team), where ambulance and EMS personnel handed out EMS safety information at the stadium entrance and Frederick city police and county sheriff's representatives encouraged baseball fans to "buckle up" when driving.
- EMS Week Proclamations were issued by both Frederick and Washington counties.
- Thurmont Community Ambulance presented an EMS and

*(Continued on page 9)*



*Walkersville Volunteer Rescue Company ambulance and EMS personnel were among those who distributed EMS safety information at the entrance to Harry S. Grove Stadium in Frederick City prior to the Frederick Keys baseball game on Heroes Day. (In the photo, EMS personnel are flanked by Vince and Larry, the seat belt dummies.)*



*Hazel Stewart was among the Region I EMS providers receiving service awards at a reception sponsored by the Western Maryland Health System that was held at Sacred Heart Hospital in Cumberland. In recognition of her 22 years of service and leadership to Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad and the community, Ms. Stewart received the Regional Star of Life Award. (L-r) Rayma Weeks (Region I EMS Council President), Ms. Stewart, and David Ramsey (MIEMSS Region I Administrator).*

(Continued from page 8)

9-1-1 program and showed their ambulance at the Thurmont Elementary School.

- Emmitsburg Ambulance Company held its 5th Annual EMS Day. Among the many demonstrations scheduled were: simulated auto crashes and victim extrications; the Maryland State Police seat belt convincer; use of K-9 dogs by the Frederick County Sheriff's Department; the Frederick County Advanced Tactical Rescue Team; a simulated aircraft crash involving mass casualties and the subsequent rescue effort; safety demonstrations for children; and CPR demonstrations.

Numerous fire and rescue crews from

Maryland and neighboring Pennsylvania participated. The ambulance company also held a day-long open house and dedicated a new ambulance.

- Frederick Memorial Hospital provided refreshments for EMS providers in its emergency department each day of EMS Week. Banners in and outside of the emergency department saluted EMS providers.

- Washington County Hospital in Hagerstown also provided refreshments for EMS providers in its emergency department and saluted EMS providers and companies with an ad in the local newspaper.

- The Volunteer Fire Company of

Halfway dedicated Fire Station No. 26 during EMS Week. Following tradition, neighboring fire companies, friends, and the community assisted in the ceremony by pushing the fire engine into the fire house. This custom dates to that time when fire equipment was hand drawn to the scene by the members who raced on foot pulling the apparatus behind them. According to custom, the apparatus was housed three times: once for God, once for the country, and once for the company. In conjunction with the dedication of the newly constructed station, the company held a life safety children's carnival.

- A series of safety programs were offered at the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway, including an American

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A crowd watches a simulated auto crash and victim extrication at the 5th Annual EMS Awareness Day sponsored by Emmitsburg Ambulance Company.



Child safety seat inspections were conducted by the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department.



Representatives of the Allegany/Garrett County Volunteer Firemen's Association recruit volunteers at the Country Club Mall during EMS Week.



Lorna Christian, RN, trauma coordinator at Washington County Hospital, does face painting at the EMS & Safety Awareness Day at Children's Village in Washington County.

## Celebrating EMS Week in Maryland

*(Continued from page 9)*

Heart Association citizen CPR course, a program on when and how to call 9-1-1, child safety seat checks, and a program on drug recognition.

- The EMS Committee of Washington County Fire & Rescue Association held an EMS and Safety Awareness Day at Children's Village. There were blood pressure checks, CPR demonstrations, emergency scenarios, a bike skills course, child safety seat checks, demonstrations of emergency apparatus, and information on burns, water safety, and 9-1-1.

- The Cecil County Paramedic Association held a recognition dinner for paramedics in the county.

- Peninsula Regional Medical Center's Emergency Department invited prehospital providers and emergency department staff to attend either a lunch or dinner in their honor.

- Dorchester EMS sponsored a dinner for prehospital providers in the county.

- The Region I EMS Reception, sponsored by the Western Maryland Health System, was held at Sacred Heart Hospital. Dr. Frederick Miltenberger and Kenneth May spoke at the program. Service awards were presented to many EMS providers in

Garrett and Allegany counties. Hazel Stewart received the Regional Star of Life Award for her 22 years of service and leadership to Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad.

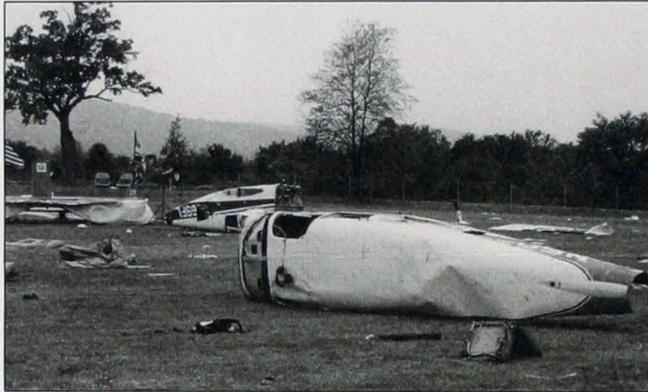
- Numerous EMS organizations and associations exhibited at the Country Club Mall in LaVale during EMS Week.
- Child safety seat checks were sponsored by Region I EMS, Midas, the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department, Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad, Garrett County Health

Department, and Maryland Kids in Safety Seats. Locking clips were donated by Ford dealers in Region I.

- The Highway Safety Coordinator from Allegany and Garrett counties trained more than 40 fire/EMS personnel in the methods of checking cars for the proper installation of child safety seats.

- Child safety seat inspections were conducted at the Frostburg Fire Department.

- The Allegany and Garrett County Commissioners issued EMS Week proclamations.



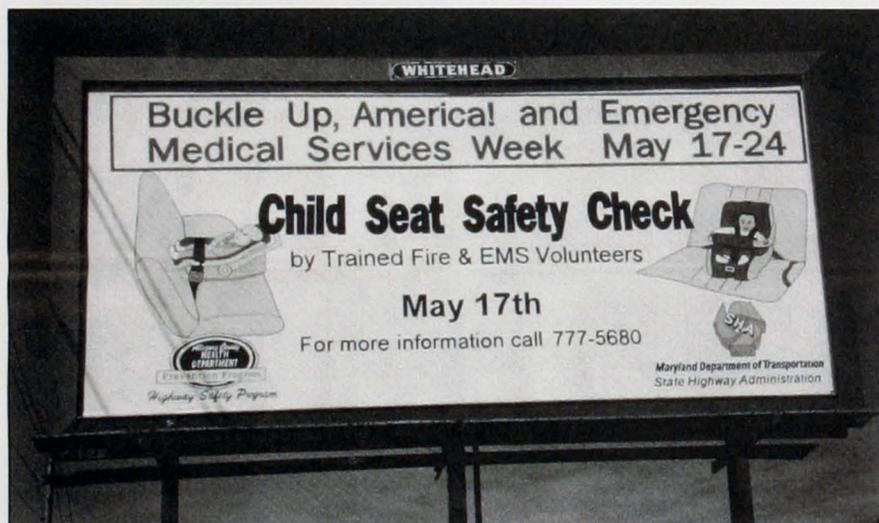
*The 5th Annual EMS Day sponsored by Emmitsburg Ambulance Company included a simulated aircraft crash and rescue demonstration. The ground was strewn with two real plane fuselages, and more than 25 "victims" presented "moulaged" injuries to the rescuers.*



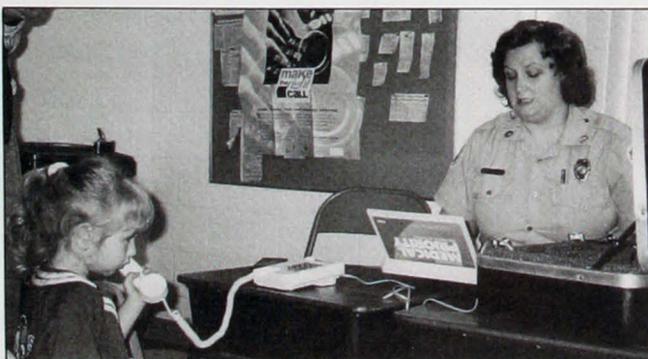
*The Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway held a Life Safety Children's Carnival in conjunction with the dedication of their newly constructed station. Included in the educational activities for kids was a smoke house, demonstrations of how to "make the right call" by dialing 9-1-1, and a safety game developed by State Farm Insurance Company that was played with oversized dice on a giant game board. The State Farm Insurance Company rewarded children who correctly answered safety questions with prizes such as bike helmets.*



The Western Maryland Health System displays information at the Country Club Mall in LaVale.



A true community project! Several agencies—the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Allegany County Health Department, and the MIEMSS Region I Office—cooperated to make this billboard a reality. Region I rescue and fire companies combined their efforts to do the child seat safety checks.



At Children's Village in Washington County, Bardona Woods, from Washington County's 9-1-1 Communications Center, uses a 9-1-1 simulator to teach a young child what to do if an emergency occurs.



Besides addressing lots of serious questions and issues, Emmitsburg's EMS Awareness Day offered many fun things for children, such as pony rides, clowns, and balloons.

## Spring '98 EMS Seminar

**Ocean City, Maryland  
March 21-22, 1998**

**Continuing Education Conference:**  
12 hours of continuing education  
for ALS/BLS providers  
**24-hour EMT-Bridge Session**

**Keynote Speaker:** James O. Page,  
Publisher of JEMS

**Place:** Princess Royale, 91st  
Street, Ocean City

**Sponsor:** Ocean City Paramedic  
Foundation

**Costs:** \$55—Conference Course,  
including breakfast and  
lunch  
\$125—EMT-Bridge  
Course, including books

Registration begins January 1998.

**For Information:** 410-723-6616



# Vital Signs '97

September 13-14, 1997  
Robinwood Medical Center  
Hagerstown, Maryland

Sponsored by  
Washington County EMS Program

## Saturday EMS Lectures:

- "Making a Difference": Narrated by Jim Page, JEMS Communications
- "Dealing with Death and Dying": Daniel Tummel, LCSW
- "Burns": C. Kingsley Poole, Battalion Chief, Hagerstown Fire Department
- "Communications": Peter K. Loewenhiem, Washington County Fire & Rescue Communications
- "Keep Your Hands Off My Balloon": Terry Marshall, RN, Washington County Hospital Association
- "HIV": John Newby, MD

## Sunday EMS Lectures:

- "Neuro—Injury and Disorder": John R. Caruso, MD
- "Fluid & Electrolyte Disorders": Charles Barton, NREMT-P, Ocean City EMS
- "Inhalation Injuries": Paul Matera, MD, Region III Medical Director
- "Is There a Need for 12 Lead?" Capt. Steve Thompson, NREMT-P, Anne Arundel Co. Fire Department
- "Understanding SpO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring": Ragu Chari, MD, Washington County Hospital Association
- "EMS—Working with People": Jeffrey Fillmore, MD, Region II Medical Director

**Heavy Vehicle Extrication Seminar (Sat. & Sun.):** Lectures and hands-on practice based on actual scenarios that the seminar instructors have been involved in. Proof of training insurance is required; Washington County insurance has already been verified.

Continuing education credits have been applied for.

The registration fee (cash, check, or money order) must accompany this form. The fee includes lunch, refreshments, and handouts. No purchase orders will be accepted. **Please make checks payable to "WCHA: Paramedic Training."**

Please return the registration form to : Washington County Hospital: EMS Program, 251 E. Antietam Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740-5771.

For further information, call 301-790-8382.

## Vital Signs '97 Registration Form

Please print clearly.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Certification: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Heavy Vehicle Extrication (Sat. & Sun.) \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

EMS Lectures:

Saturday only	\$45 _____
Sunday only	\$45 _____
Sat. & Sun.	\$80 _____

# ALS Protocols Revised

Below is a listing of the main changes in, deletions to, and additions to the ALS protocols that went into effect July 1, 1997.

- The rotating tourniquets technique was removed as an ALS skill.
- The Presumed Dead on Arrival (PDOA) protocol was added and now matches the one for EMT-B's.
- The child abuse protocol was modified to match the EMT-B protocol. ALL EMS providers are required **by law** to report **suspected** child abuse or neglect to the child protective services or to the police.
- The sexual assault protocol was added and now matches the one for EMT-B's.
- The Trauma Decision Tree was added. All trauma/ burn protocols were moved from the Appendix to the main text. Some treatments were modified slightly.
- **Injectable** Benadryl (50 mg) was added to the medication list.

- The anaphylaxis protocol was modified to incorporate **injectable** Benadryl.
- 12-Lead EKG is an approved technique for ALS (not a requirement). Guidelines should be obtained from MIEMSS.
- The hand trauma referral protocol was revised to note that patients with distal finger injuries or toe amputations are usually not candidates for microsurgery or referral to a hand center.
- The helmet removal protocol was modified.
- The Nitroglycerin (NTG) protocol allows for ALS providers to administer NTG while starting an IV if the patient has had NTG prescribed previously.
- Nifedipine was removed from the medication list and the hypertension protocol was modified to reflect the removal of Nifedipine.

- The charcoal dosage was changed to 1 gram/ kilogram.
- Saline lock was authorized for prophylactic IV access. Wherever lactated Ringer's at KVO is used, saline lock may be substituted.
- The overdose/ poison protocol was changed to reflect the indications for Ipecac.
- In the triage protocol, transportation of priority 1 and 2 patients to the appropriate hospital-based facility (eg, emergency department, trauma center, specialty referral center) was added.
- Certain language regarding the transportation of pediatric patients was deleted.

Any changes that you want to submit for consideration for the revisions to the ALS protocols for 1998 must be submitted to your jurisdictional medical director by September 1997. Those changes that are approved by the Maryland Board of Physician Quality Assurance will be printed in the spring of 1998 and go into effect July 1, 1998.

## EMS Update Conference

The Baltimore County Fire Department will hold its annual EMS Update conference, November 1-2, at Essex Community College. Guest speakers include Thomas Scalea, MD (R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center), Hal Shaffner, MD (Johns Hopkins Children Center), and Battalion Chief Harold Cohen, MS, EMT-P (Baltimore County Fire Department).

Among the conference topics are ADHD and the EMS "personality" type, an overview of the Emergency Medical Dispatch program, computerized runsheets for prehospital uses, and case reviews on acute myocardial infarction.

Two pre-conferences—advanced cardiac life support recertification and tactical rescue for EMS (including lectures and hands-on experience)—will be offered October 31.

The conference is offered free to Baltimore County EMS providers. For out-of-county providers, the cost is \$40 for both days, \$25 for one day, and \$25 for the pre-conference program.

For information, call the Baltimore County Rescue Academy at 410-887-4890.

## Pediatric CPR Day

During Pediatric CPR Day on September 13 at the USAir Arena in Landover, classes will start at 9 AM, 11 AM, and 1 PM. Each class will last approximately 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours. The classes will follow the guidelines of the American Heart Association Pediatric Basic Life Support Curriculum. Pre-registration is required. The cost per student is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Steve Ager is the coordinator for Pediatric CPR Day. For further information, call 301-772-9129.

## Dr. Murray Kalish Elected

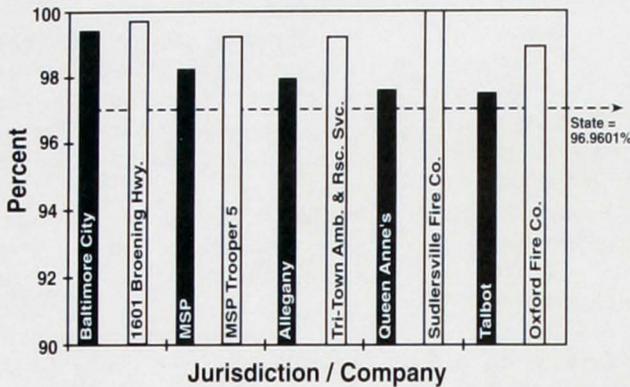
Murray A. Kalish, MD, was elected president of the Maryland Medical Alumni Association. Dr. Kalish is a member of SEMSAC, representing the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. He also serves as chairman of the Finance Committee and is on the Helicopter Replacement Committee.

## New MFRI Medical Director

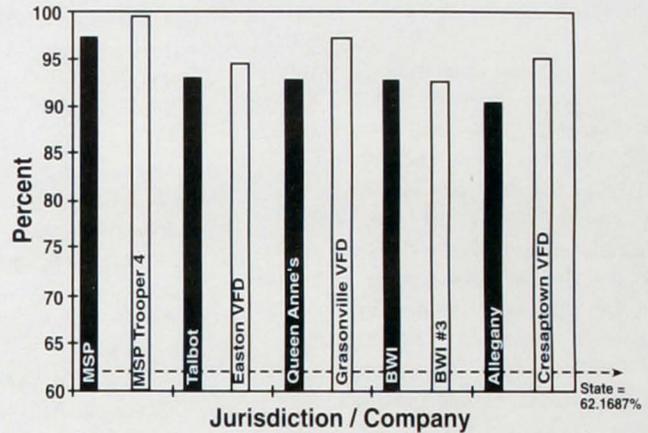
Terry Jodrie, MD, is the new medical director for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Dr. Jodrie is the Assistant Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Prince George's Hospital Center in Cheverly.

# MAIS Data Calendar Year 1996 Top Five Jurisdictions/Companies for . . .

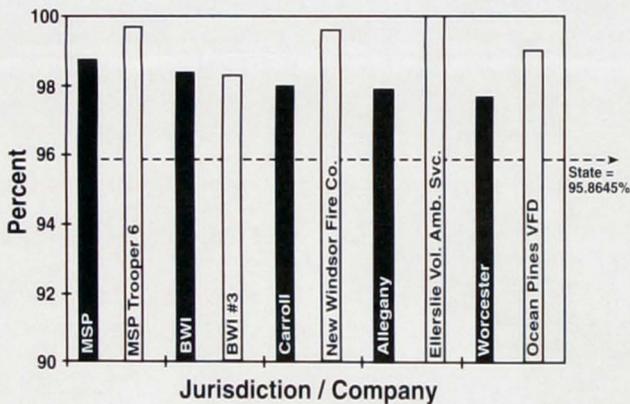
**Valid Date**



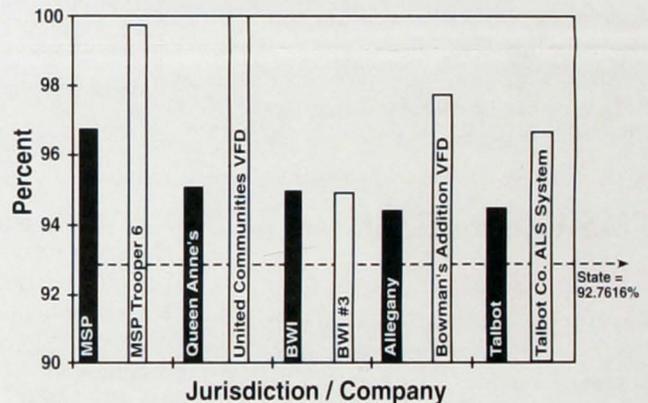
**Valid Time**



**Valid Patient Priority**



**Valid Demographics**



■ Jurisdiction  
□ Jurisdiction's Top Company  
--- State Average

## MAIS Graphic Variable Key

**Record Inclusion:** All reported transports (MAIS Variable: TRANSPORT BY – "This Unit") for Calendar Year 1996

**Variables Measured:** The Optical Mark Responses (OMR) scanned and loaded to the MAIS central database

**Validity Determination:** Valid response as defined in the MAIS User's Manual and interpreted by scanner

**Valid Date:** All three components (Month/Day/Year) of Call Date with a valid date response

**Valid Times:** All five times for Ambulance Call, Depart Station, Arrive Scene, Depart Scene, and Arrive Hospital with a valid time response

**Valid Patient Priority:** Between 1 and 4

**Valid Demographics:** All three components (Age, Race, Gender) of demographics with a valid response

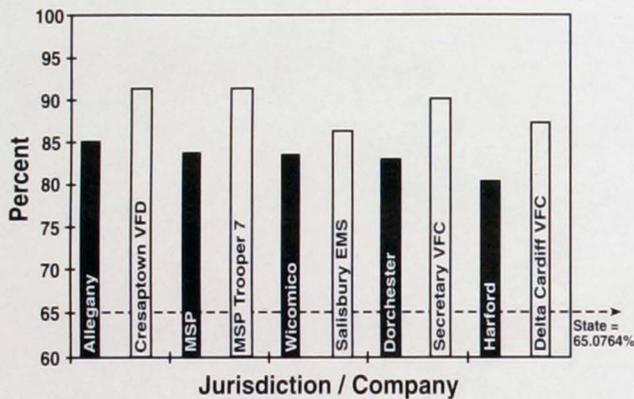
**Valid Vitals:** All four components (Systolic BP, Diastolic BP, Pulse, Respirations) of vital signs with a valid response

**Valid Glasgow Coma Scale:** All three components (Eye, Motor, Verbal) of Glasgow Coma Scale with a valid response

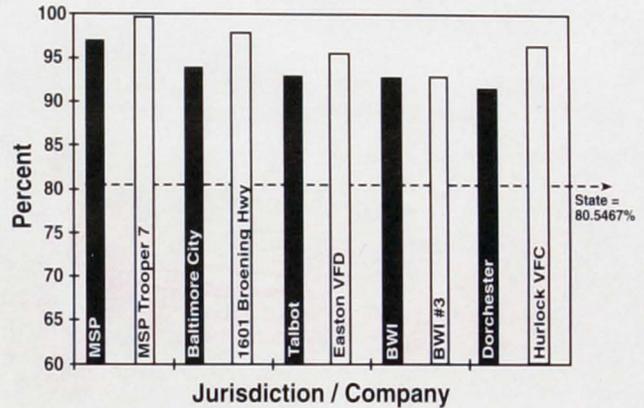
**Valid Injury/Condition:** At least one response in either the Injury Type or Condition responses

**Valid Receiving Hospital:** A valid hospital code (codes between 200 and 999)

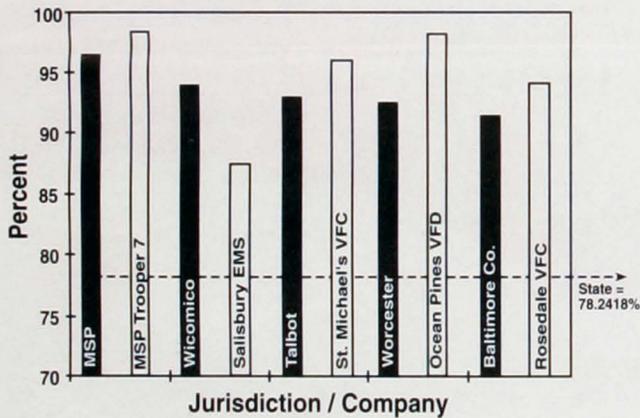
### Valid Vital Signs



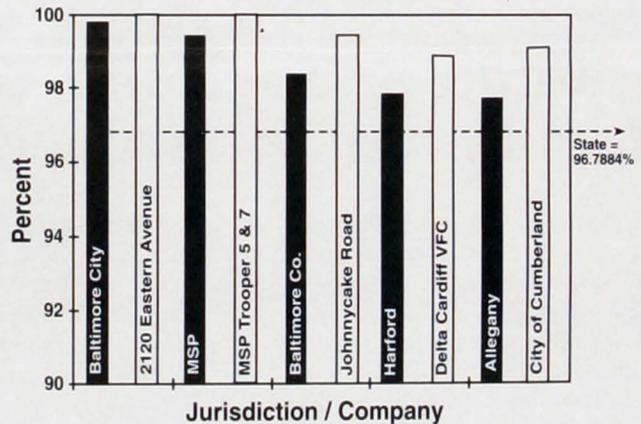
### Valid GCS



### Valid Injury/Condition



### Valid Receive Hospital



Jurisdiction  
 Jurisdiction's Top Company  
 --- State Average

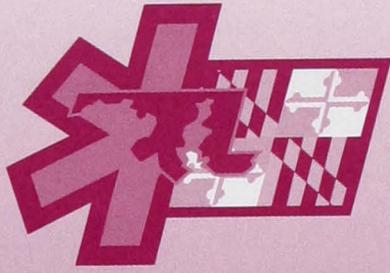
During the past 14 months, MIEMSS has been assessing the accuracy of the data reported by Maryland's EMS companies through the Maryland Ambulance Information System (MAIS). These assessments have led to several improvement initiatives that have yielded better benchmarks and trend measurements. Ultimately they will provide statewide quality control and quality improvement

indicators for Maryland EMS that will be used by the Maryland EMS Quality Leadership Council.

The MAIS Accuracy Team at MIEMSS has taken Calendar Year (CY) 1996 MAIS data and reported on the validity or "completeness" of eight key points of information — date, time, patient priority, demographics, vital signs, Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), injury/condition, and receiving hospital. In each of these

eight areas, the "top five" jurisdictions (by variable) and the companies with the highest contribution rate of completed records are indicated on the graphs.

If you want to find out where your jurisdiction's or company's rates fall, please contact John New (MIEMSS Quality Management Director) at 410-706-3977 or your MIEMSS Regional Administrator.



**Governor Parris N. Glendening**

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## Trauma & Specialty Center Regulations Approved

Consistent with the legal mandate of the 1993 Education Article §13-509, Annotated Code of Maryland, the EMS Board approved new regulations for the designation of trauma and specialty referral centers. These regulations (COMAR 30.08) took effect on March 24, 1997, and replaced the uncodified "Echelons of Care" document.

The new regulations establish procedures for designating hospitals as trauma or specialty referral centers; standards for these centers; and the process for disciplinary action to be taken if a designated trauma or specialty center does not comply with the regulations.

There is no grandfathering of existing hospital trauma and/or specialty referral centers under these regulations. All currently designated hospitals will need to apply for designation under the new regulations.

To date, the call for letters of intent from Maryland hospitals that want to go through the designation process for the Primary Adult

Resource Center (PARC), trauma centers (levels I, II, and III), and the burn center have appeared in the *Maryland Register*.

The other specialty referral centers (eye, hand, neurotrauma, pediatric, and perinatal) in Maryland will have the opportunity to apply for designation after the standards have been promulgated in 1998. There is no grandfathering of currently designated centers. However, these centers will continue to function as currently designated until the designation process is completed under the new regulations.

Trauma center designations should be announced in the fall of 1997. The PARC and Level I trauma center designations should occur in mid-September, with Levels II and III being announced during November and December.

The designation process will consist of two parts: the review of the hospital's application, which includes a self-assessment, and an on-site survey. A survey team consisting of a

trauma surgeon, trauma coordinator, emergency department physician, and/or administrator—all from out of state—will assess the PARC and Level I trauma centers. All final trauma center and specialty center designations must have the approval of the EMS Board.

To ensure access to care for all citizens of Maryland, MIEMSS will contract with appropriate out-of-state trauma and specialty referral centers that are needed to augment services in areas not covered by Maryland centers. This will occur after trauma and specialty referral centers are designated in Maryland.

Robert R. Bass, MD, FACEP, Executive Director of MIEMSS, recently announced that Mary Beachley, MS, RN, CEN, would head the Office of Hospital Programs. Ms. Beachley is also State Trauma Coordinator at MIEMSS. In her new role, she will oversee and provide support for the designation and verification of hospitals as trauma and specialty referral centers. She will also coordinate ongoing quality monitoring for the compliance with regulations and the standards for the designation of trauma and specialty referral centers.