

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

Vol. 43, No. 3

April 2017

Governor Hogan Declares State of Emergency to Combat Maryland Heroin and Opioid Crisis

Governor Larry Hogan has signed Executive Order 01.01.2017.02 declaring a State of Emergency in response to the heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis in Maryland and across the country. This declaration activates the Governor's emergency management authority and enables increased and more rapid coordination between the state and local jurisdictions. The State of Emergency declaration is a result of the initial findings

of the Opioid Operational Command Center (OCCC), which was established by the administration in January 2017, to facilitate greater collaboration among state agencies.

The Governor's Executive Order delegates emergency powers to state and local emergency management officials, enabling them to fast-track coordination among state and local agencies and community organizations, including private sector

and nonprofit entities, to ensure whole-community involvement. Governor Hogan's senior advisor for emergency management, Clay Stamp, will oversee this coordinated

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Providers: Please Share Maryland Substance Use Disorder Crisis Hotline

MIEMSS encourages EMS providers to share the Maryland Crisis Hotline phone number with opioid overdose patients who refuse transport to a hospital. The Maryland Crisis Hotline is provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The hotline provides support, guidance, and assistance on how to access substance use disorder and mental health services. Information includes accessing naloxone, recovery support, and family services as available/appropriate in the individual's local area. Encouraging patients to utilize the crisis hotline may help prevent future overdoses and assist to combat the opioid epidemic.

Maryland Crisis Hotline: 1-800-422-0009



National EMS Week 2017 will be May 21–27, 2017. This year's theme is **EMS STRONG: Always in Service.** Wednesday, May 24, is Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day.

EMS Week was established by President Gerald Ford when he declared November 3–10, 1974, as the first "National Emergency Medical Services Week." This annual observance continued for four more years, and then was reinstated in 1982 by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Around this time, the observance of EMS Week was moved to September. In 1992, EMS Week was moved again to the third week in May so that EMS Week was separated from Fire Prevention week in October, enhancing the effectiveness of each program.

The EMS Strong campaign has been the theme of National EMS Week since 2015. While National EMS Week is an integral part of the campaign, EMS Strong is the vehicle to drive awareness, interest, and excitement about the profession year-round. Be sure to visit the EMS Strong website at www.emsstrong.org for more information, resources, and inspiration!

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Medical Director Named EMS Physician of the Year

Dr. Matthew Levy, the Medical Director for the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (HCDFRS), was named EMS Physician of the Year by the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Each year, this award is given to a Maryland physician who has made significant contributions in the field of EMS.

Dr. Levy was selected for his extensive career in Maryland EMS and his decades-long commitment to EMS medicine. Dr. Levy holds leadership roles in a number of state and national EMS system initiatives, including the Pulsepoint smartphone application that alerts subscribers when and where CPR is needed. Other initiatives Dr. Levy has spearheaded are: making public access bleeding control kits accessible in government-owned buildings and schools, active assailant response training efforts, and the CPR meter pilot project, which gives providers real-time feedback on compression rate and depth while performing CPR. He is also heavily involved in opioid mitigation in Howard County.

“The programs Dr. Levy has created for our county are truly innovative,” said Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman. “He is undoubtedly deserving of this award, and we are grateful for his service and dedication to the community.”

“Dr. Levy is deeply committed to advancing the practice of EMS medicine,” said Howard County Fire Chief John S. Butler. “His leadership and foresight have driven this department to an even higher level of emergency care.”

Dr. Levy is HCDFRS’ first medical director to have also served as an EMS provider within the department. He is board subspecialty certified in EMS medicine and is also a member of the inaugural fellowship class of the National Association of EMS Physicians’ Academy of Emergency Medical Services.

“I am honored to have been recognized by ACEP for this award,” noted Dr. Levy. “And I would like to thank my team members, as well as the department’s leaders, for their assistance and support. I look forward to continuing our work in EMS to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all Howard County residents, employees, and visitors.”



Dr. Matthew Levy (center) was selected EMS Physician of the Year by the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Joining him at the award ceremony were Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services Fire Chief John S. Butler (left) and Dr. Robert C. Linton, the Emergency Department Director at Howard County General Hospital – Johns Hopkins Medicine. Photo courtesy of Dr. Matthew Levy.

Statewide EMS/Fire Recruitment Day

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association is hosting a recruitment day at local fire and EMS departments across the state on April 23, 2017, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Members of the public are invited to visit local stations and learn how they can join and participate as a volunteer responder, an administrative member, or auxiliary member in their local fire/rescue/EMS department. If you are unable to attend recruitment day events, but would still like to learn about volunteering, please feel free to contact your neighborhood department. You may also call 1-800-FIRELINE or visit www.mdvolunteer.org for additional information.

Calvert County Hosts Mass Casualty Incident Table Top Exercise

In a significant step toward increasing their preparedness for major incidents, Calvert County recently hosted their first countywide mass casualty incident table top exercise.

The exercise, which simulated an all-hazards response to a bus accident with 24 simulated patients, tested the ability of a variety of response partners to implement the county’s new mass casualty incident plan. Calvert County Fire, EMS, Sheriff’s Department, Emergency Management, and the American Red Cross participated in the exercise, which required establishing incident command and moving patients through the triage, treatment, and transport process. The scenario forced difficult decisions, such as resource and destination choices.

A group of evaluators, including representatives from MIEMSS, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department, and D.C. Fire and EMS Department, carefully documented participants’ actions, provided constructive and detailed feedback, and identified areas for additional training. Once training has been implemented, Calvert County will be conducting a full-scale exercise to further their preparedness.



Upcoming Pediatric Education Opportunities

- April 27, 2017 (8 AM–5 PM)**
When the Stork Dials 9-1-1 Workshop
Thursday Preconference at EMS Care Conference
EMS continuing education approved by MIEMSS
 Location: Ocean City, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: Available through the EMS Care Conference at bit.ly/EMSCare2017
- April 27–28, 2017 (8 AM–5 PM)**
PALS Course (Taught by UMMS Upper Chesapeake Medical Center)
Two-Day Preconference at EMS Care Conference
EMS continuing education approved by MIEMSS
 Location: Ocean City, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: Available through the EMS Care Conference at bit.ly/EMSCare2017
- May 3, 2017 (time TBD)**
The S.T.A.B.L.E. Program
Wednesday Preconference at ENA by the Bay Conference
EMS continuing education approved by MIEMSS
 Location: Linthicum, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: Available soon through the ENA by the Bay Conference at www.mdena.org
- June 29–30, 2017**
CPEN Review Course
EMS continuing education approved by MIEMSS
 Location: Salisbury, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: Contact pepp@miemss.org for information

For more information, email pepp@miemss.org



Licensure and Certification TIDBIT

Q. I just renewed my NREMT-Paramedic certification. Do I need to renew with MIEMSS also?

A. Yes; the NREMT certification is not a license to function as an EMS provider in Maryland. The authorization to function in Maryland requires a current and valid license from the state. **You must complete a renewal application with MIEMSS in the web-based Licensure System.** You can access the system by going to the MIEMSS website and selecting the Provider Login link, or by going directly to www.miemsslicense.com. Once you are logged into the Licensure System, click on Applications, select your renewal application, complete, and submit. Maryland ALS providers MUST complete an application for renewal, or extension, no later than April 30 of the year they are due to renew. Failure to submit an application for renewal or extension will lead to a lapsed certification AND the inability to function as an EMS provider in the state.

If you are unable to access the website, or need further assistance, please contact licensure support at 410-706-7381 or email licensure-support@miemss.org.

2017 EMS and Prevention Educational Conferences and Events

April 23, 2017
Statewide Volunteer Recruitment Day
Open House
 Location: Statewide
 Information: www.mdvolunteer.org

April 26–30, 2017
Maryland EMS Care Conference
 Location: Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: bit.ly/EMSCare2017

May 11–12, 2017
Point/Counterpoint Acute Care Surgery Conference
 Location: Hilton Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: www.mdcot.org

May 17, 2017
Basic Disaster Life Support™ (BDLS®)
 Location: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, College Park, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: www.MFRL.org

May 18–19, 2017
Advanced Disaster Life Support™ (ADLS®)
 Location: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, College Park, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: register.ndlsf.org
Enrollment Code is required to register for the course. Contact chzyer@miemss.org for code.

May 19, 2017
34th Annual Wilmer Nursing Conference
 Location: Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Baltimore, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: infosuite.welch.jhmi.edu/WNBSP/conference

June 17–23, 2017
MSFA Annual Conference and Convention
 Location: Roland E. Powell Convention Center, Ocean City, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: www.msfa.org/content/conventioninfo/

September 26, 2017
Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference
 Location: The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland
 REGISTRATION: www.fabscom.org



CARES Corner

All EMSOPs are now contributing data to CARES. As of December 2017, Maryland will be reporting comprehensive CARES data and will be in the national CARES report.

Total number of runsheets exported to CARES since January 2017: 671

This Month's CARES Tip:

Was an AED applied PRIOR to arrival of transporting EMS unit? (CARES-26)

- Yes, with defibrillation
- Yes, without defibrillation
- No

If an EMS/fire provider—who was not part of the unit that transported the patient or declared the patient dead at the scene—applied an AED, choose **“Yes, with Defibrillation”** or **“Yes, without Defibrillation.”**

If providers on the EMS transporting unit (or providers on the unit that declared the patient dead at scene) applied an AED, choose **“No.”**

If no AED was applied, choose **“No.”**

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

MIEMSS is celebrating the week of April 9–15, 2017, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This week is celebrated annually and honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance. Nationally, in times of intense personal crisis and community-wide disasters, the first access point for those seeking emergency services is 9-1-1. Local and county public safety communications centers that receive these calls have emerged as the first and single point of contact for persons seeking immediate relief during an emergency. MIEMSS salutes all of the Maryland's public safety telecommunicators, including MIEMSS' Emergency Medical Resource Center (EMRC) and Systems Communications (SYSCOM) operators.



Operators in MIEMSS' new SYSCOM center (left) and at a dispatch center in Anne Arundel County execute their duties as a critical link in the Chain of Survival. We salute these providers, a valuable asset to Maryland's EMS system!

BLS Provider Renewals

EMR and EMT providers whose certification is due to lapse on June 30, 2017, including those who are currently extended to that date, will need to have an application for renewal on file with MIEMSS. MIEMSS now uses the web-based Licensure System; in order for MIEMSS to process your provider renewal, **you must complete the electronic application in the Licensure System**. We recommend completing this application no later than sixty (60) days prior to your renewal date. Also, if you need to extend your certification, if not already on an extension, you must complete an extension request in the Licensure System by your certification lapse date. Failure to submit an application for renewal or extension will lead to a lapsed certification AND the inability to function as an EMS provider in the state.

You may access the Licensure System by going to the MIEMSS website and selecting the Provider Login link, or going directly to www.miemsslicense.com. Once you are logged into the Licensure System, click on Applications, select your renewal application, complete, and submit.

For an explanation of renewal requirements, please visit our website, www.miemss.org. You may also view your current continuing education report in the Licensure System. After logging in, click on Training, and then select Report.

MIEMSS Covers NREMT Cognitive Examination Costs for BLS Students

When Maryland first required NREMT testing for BLS (EMR and EMT) candidates, MIEMSS paid the full cost of the applicant's first exam. Now the Maryland EMS Board has voted to pay for both the first and second NREMT Cognitive Examination attempt for BLS candidates for students with a valid affiliation on file with MIEMSS at the time of their course completion. This initiative will occur during a trial basis, until further notice.

The payment of the first examination for students with a Maryland affiliation is an automated process and does not require notification to MIEMSS by the EMR or EMT student. Students meeting the affiliation criteria who wish to have their second examination paid for by MIEMSS will need to email the following information to BLS Training Specialist Mark New at MNew@miemss.org.

1. For **pre-payment** of the second examination: Full name and NREMT application number
2. For **reimbursement** of a second examination already paid for: Full name, current address, and proof of NREMT examination payment

Please contact the MIEMSS Office of Licensure and Certification at 410-706-3666 or 800-762-7157 should you have any questions.

Maryland's Trauma System Holds Distracted Driving Prevention and Awareness Events

In recognition of April's National Distracted Driving Prevention Awareness Month, the Maryland Trauma Quality Improvement Committee (TQIC), comprised of representatives from the Maryland Trauma Centers, held a Distracted Driving Prevention Awareness Day on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, at Trauma Centers across the state. Distracted driving continues to be a dangerous, escalating problem on Maryland's roadways. Our Maryland Trauma Centers see the tragic results that occur when individuals drive while distracted.

Each of the following Trauma Centers prepared events to bring statewide awareness to distracted driving and how it can be prevented: The Johns Hopkins Hospital Adult Trauma Center, The Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, the Wilmer Eye Institute at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Suburban Hospital Trauma Center – Johns Hopkins Medicine, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Prince George's Hospital Center, Sinai Hospital, Western Maryland Health System, Meritus Medical Center, Children's National Health System, and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma

Center. These events highlighted the need for drivers to be more aware of what can happen when they drive distracted.

"The safety and security of Marylanders is our top priority, and we're working every day to reduce traffic fatalities and save lives," said Maryland Governor Larry Hogan. "Distracted driving puts everyone at risk, that's why I'm glad to see our world-class Trauma Centers and the private sector working together to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving. It's simple: if you're driving in Maryland, keep your eyes on the road, not on your phones."



At Sinai Hospital in Baltimore, a visitor experiences the dangers of distracted driving using a state-of-the-art 3-D simulator (left photo). A local news station interviews Dr. Reema Kar, trauma and acute care surgeon and assistant professor of surgery, at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center during its distracted driving event on April 5 (right photo).

MIEMSS Welcomes New Employees to Field Operations Department

Tessa Smith, an active volunteer EMT/firefighter, has joined the MIEMSS team as the new EMS Infectious Disease Program Coordinator. Previously, Tessa was the Corporate Emergency Manager at Dimensions Healthcare System, where she was responsible for all disaster response activities. She also worked closely with the infection prevention team while managing an Ebola prevention grant at Prince George's Hospital Center. She has experience responding to a variety of emergency calls, mass care and shelter events, and national security special events. Tessa will be responsible for managing and coordinating the EMS High Consequence Infectious Disease project for MIEMSS.

Sean Britton has been selected as MIEMSS' new EMS Preparedness Planner. Sean's role will be to assist with emergency preparedness and operations planning. Prior to joining MIEMSS, Sean was the Director of Public Health for Broome County, New York, having previously held positions as the Deputy Director and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Prior to entering public health, he was the Program Coordinator for Emergency and Trauma Services at United Health Services Hospitals in Binghamton, New York. Sean has been a paramedic for eight years and has experience as an EMS and emergency management educator.



Tessa Smith



Sean Britton



New Safety Campaign Aims to End Railroad Crossing Deaths

About every three hours, a person or vehicle is hit by a train in the United States. To combat this startling statistic, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Federal Railroad Administration have collaboratively launched a new railroad crossing safety ad campaign with a simple message: “Stop. Trains Can’t.”

Although incidents at railroad crossings are an old problem, the problem CAN be solved. This campaign is the latest in a two-year, focused effort to reverse an increase in railroad crossing fatalities. The Federal Railroad Administration has devised these helpful tips for EMS providers, so that *you* can help play a part in reducing death and injury from these incidents.

Emergency Responders

- Become familiar with the railroads operating in your area of jurisdiction and the types of products they regularly transport.
- Ensure your team has an understanding of basic railroad operations, policies, and procedures.
- Develop an emergency response plan for handling railroad incidents.
- During an emergency, locate the blue and white “Emergency Notification System” sign to contact the railroad.

Emergency Dispatchers

- Direct callers to look for the blue and white “Emergency Notification System” sign to quickly determine the location of the railroad emergency.
- Immediately contact the railroad responsible for the track.
- Determine if the incident involves a pedestrian or a motor vehicle.
- Determine if there are additional dangers, such as motor vehicles on the track or hazardous cargo.
- Ensure that your call center has a map of all railroads in your area as well as a policy for handling railroad incidents.

For more information and a variety of resources and downloads for sharing, visit www.transportation.gov/stop-trains-cant.

Long-Serving Region I and Region V Medical Directors Step Down

Dr. William May has stepped down from his position as the Region I EMS Medical Director. He was recently recognized, during a presentation at the Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar, for his leadership and commitment on behalf of Region I prehospital care providers and the region’s emergency department nurses and doctors. Since 1999, Dr. May served at the local level, but also imparted knowledge and contributed time to many statewide projects.

Dr. Terry Jodrie was recognized for his many years of service to the citizens of Region V and the State of Maryland. He has served as

the EMS Base Station Director at Washington Adventist Hospital, the EMS Associate Medical Director, and the Medical Director for Region V. He was also the Medical Director for Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department.

MIEMSS thanks both of these outstanding physicians for their time, dedication, and commitment, and wishes them all the best in their future endeavors.



MIEMSS Acting Co-Executive Director and State EMS Medical Director Dr. Richard Alcorta presents MIEMSS Certificates of Appreciation to Dr. Terry Jodrie (left photo) and Dr. William May to recognize and honor their many years of service as regional medical directors. Dr. Jodrie photo courtesy of Dave Stamey.

15th Annual Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar



The 15th annual Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar was held March 10 and 11, 2017, in Flintstone, Maryland. This excellent educational program offers hands-on and classroom courses for providers serving Western Maryland and the surrounding area. Participating attendees at this year's Miltenberger program attend one of the conference's general sessions (top left); an attendee uses a tablet application to log in responses to a survey posted by Maryland's EMS for Children program (top right); and participants receive hands-on training using a megacode simulator while performing CPR (bottom left). Dr. Alasdair K. Conn, Chief Emeritus of the Massachusetts General Hospital Emergency Department, presented the keynote address on the Boston Marathon bombings (bottom right). Before moving to Massachusetts in 1985, Dr. Conn was on the surgical attending staff at MIEMSS, becoming the Medical Director of the Maryland State Police Medevac Program in 1981. He took on the role of the EMS Director for the State of Maryland in 1982, and then Deputy Clinical Director of MIEMSS in 1983.

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effort. Mr. Stamp is also the director of Talbot County Department of Emergency Services. State agencies involved include the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Maryland Emergency

Management Agency, Department of Human Resources, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Juvenile Services, Maryland State Police, Maryland State Education Department, and MIEMSS.



Advanced Disaster Life Support Course

(Requires Successful Completion of the BDLs Course)

Course Date and Time

May 18 and 19, 2017
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Course Location

Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
4500 Campus Drive
College Park, MD 20742

Register at: <http://register.ndlsf.org>

(use Chrome or Firefox web browser)

Enrollment Code is required to register for the course

Contact Chris Hyzer for the Code @ chyzer@miemss.org

THERE IS A STUDENT FEE OF \$50 TO ENROLL IN THE COURSE

The Advanced Disaster Life Support™ (ADLS®) course is an intense 2-day course for 50 students that allows participants to demonstrate competencies in mass casualty management. The ADLS Course requires learners to apply knowledge learned in the Basic Disaster Life Support™ (BDLS®) course. Successful completion of the BDLs course is a prerequisite for attendance at the ADLS course. The ADLS course target audience includes physicians, nurses, physician assistants, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), paramedics, pharmacists, allied health professionals, and students in health professional schools.

Questions: Contact Chris Hyzer

Telephone 410-706-0881

chyzer@miemss.org

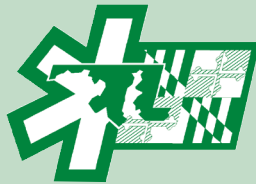
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Maryland Regional NDLS Coalition

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The RA Cowley Shock Trauma Center and the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)

MIEMSS, *Maryland EMS News*
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Governor Larry Hogan
Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

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Photography: Jim Brown & Brian Slack
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