

# Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Clinicians

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June 2019

## MSFA Holds their 127th Annual Convention



Dr. Ted Delbridge, MIEMSS Executive Director, updated the attendees on MIEMSS initiatives during the recent MSFA Convention.



The Maryland EMS for Children Program coordinated educational displays, like this one on poison prevention, at this year's Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention.

The 127th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) was recently held in Ocean City. Dr. Ted Delbridge and Dr. Tim Chizmar conducted educational presentations during the convention. MIEMSS Licensure and Certification had a booth where EMS clinicians could check continuing education and purchase patches, pins, t-shirts, and protocols. The EMS for Children program coordinated the Safe Kids Maryland and RISK WATCH "Steps to Safety" interactive displays which included car seat safety, swimming safety, bicycle safety, and hands on learning for when to call 9-1-1. A number of fire/EMS personnel 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 recognize Past President Rick Blair for a successful year as president of the MSFA and for the time and dedication he provided to the members of the emergency services in Maryland. MIEMSS would like to congratulate Mike Faust on his recent election as president of the MSFA. We also congratulate First Vice President Chuck Walker and Second Vice President Joel McCrea on their election to MSFA leadership roles. We would also like to thank the past President of the Ladies Auxiliary Marcia Roth for her service over the past year and recognize the new officers of the Ladies Auxiliary: President Lori Denbow, Senior Vice President Donna Struntz, and Junior Vice President Becky Wathen. MIEMSS looks forward to working with Presidents Faust and Dembrow and the other officers in the coming year. MIEMSS thanks all emergency services personnel in Maryland for the jobs that they do every day in making our state a safer place to work and live.



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# Donald L. DeVries, Jr. Inducted into MSFA Hall of Fame

Mr. Donald L. DeVries, Jr. was inducted into the Maryland State Firemen's Association's Hall of Fame during the 2019 MSFA Convention. This prestigious honor was awarded during the President's Dinner. Mr. DeVries recently stepped down as Chair of Maryland's EMS Board. He led the Board since its inception in 1993. Mr. DeVries was recognized for numerous accomplishments of the past 26 years. It was noted that the key to the EMS systems success over the years has been his commitment, dedication, leadership, and support in making what it is today. He has worked with the entire fire and EMS community, both volunteer and career, hospital, trauma and specialty center personnel, with the commitment and dedication to making the Maryland trauma and EMS system a national and international model.

## 2019 Annual Memorial Program for Fire-EMS-Rescue Line of Duty Deaths Held

On Sunday, June 2, 2019, firefighter, EMS, and rescue crew members who died in the line of duty were honored by the Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation at its annual ceremony in Annapolis. Anne Arundel County Fire Department Chief Trisha Wolford offered the Memorial Address with thoughts for surviving family members as well as those who gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving the citizens of Maryland. Five individuals were added to the wall of honor at the memorial, representing line of duty deaths (LODD) ranging from 1902 to 2019. MIEMSS honors those fallen and thanks them and their families for their sacrifices.



Fire Chief Trisha Wolford of the Anne Arundel County Fire Department offered the Memorial Address at this year's memorial service for fallen fire/rescue service personnel.



During the 2019 MSFA Convention, Mr. Donald L. DeVries, Jr., who recently stepped down as Chair of the Maryland EMS Board, was inducted into the Maryland State Firemen's Association's Hall of Fame. Mr. DeVries (third from left) is pictured with Past President Rick Blair (second from left) and members of the Hall of Fame Committee.

## Close Quarters Defense® Provides Training for EMS Personnel in Talbot County

The Talbot County Department of Emergency Services (DES) has recently completed Employee Readiness Training at the Close Quarters Defense (CQD®) facility. The training provided specialized skills to help their personnel respond appropriately to a multitude of situations and ensure each individual's confidence and capability were at its highest level. Over the past two years, Talbot County DES has sent almost all of their EMS clinicians to this multi-day training course. This instruction focused on theories, techniques, and tactics that are functional in both personal defense and duty-related tasks. Recognizing that EMS clinicians are the ones most likely confronted with an emergency situation, the training provided information on how to appropriately respond to a variety of situations including de-escalation skills, confronting verbal or physical assault, or reacting to high-risk situations such as workplace violence or an active shooter. "I believe this program highlights the importance of EMS workers safety," said Clay Stamp, Talbot County Emergency Services Director and Chair of the Maryland EMS Board.

CQD partners with each organization to enhance the overall safety and security for their personnel. They have worked with a variety of local and federal agencies for over 30 years and are recognized as the gold standard for realistic training, skill validation, and organizational preparedness.



## Upcoming Pediatric Education Opportunities

- August 6-8, 2019**  
*School Health Interdisciplinary Program (SHIP) Conference*  
**Theme: Advancing Innovation and Best Practices in School Health**  
 For more information visit:  
<https://csmh.umaryland.edu/Conferences/School-Health-Interdisciplinary-Program/>
- August 10, 2019**  
*Pediatric EMS Symposium*  
 Location: Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC  
 Register online at <https://traumaburneducation.ticketleap.com/>

For more information, email [pepp@miemss.org](mailto:pepp@miemss.org)

## 2019 Educational Programs SAVE THE DATES

**September 20, 2019**  
*Peninsula Regional Trauma Conference 2019*  
Ocean City, Md.

**September 24, 2019**  
*Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference*  
Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab Laurel, Md.

**November 8, 2019**  
*Meritus Medical Center Trauma Update Winter 2019*  
Robinwood Professional Center, Hagerstown, Md.  
Contact: [ruth.leizear@meritushealth.com](mailto:ruth.leizear@meritushealth.com)

## Licensure and Certification TIDBIT

**Q.** How can I view my itemized continuing education records? All I see are the number of training hours?

**A.** The process is really quite easy when you know where to go. Just follow these simple steps:

- Go to [www.miemsslicense.com](http://www.miemsslicense.com) (Or just click the Provider Login button on the MIEMSS homepage) and log in to your provider account.
- Select Training
- Then select Record
- Verify and correct the date range shown and the Training Level drop down if necessary
- Select Go and your training hour only report will display
- Select the  button found next to the Training Level drop down menu
- A PDF document will then open that shows your itemized continuing education records which you can print or save for your records

To see a picture of the training record page, go to:  
<http://www.miemss.org/home/EMS-Providers/licensure-info>

## CARES Corner

### This Month's CARES Tip

The out-of-hospital cardiac arrest records for calendar year 2018 in the CARES registry are now complete. In Maryland, there were 6700 total non-traumatic sudden out-of-hospital cardiac arrests for CY 2018.

National reports are now available on the CARES website: <https://mycares.net>.

The Bystander CPR Rate and the Public AED Use Rate were calculated in Maryland and at the national level. The Maryland and national rates for 2018 are as follows:

Bystander Intervention Rates		
	Maryland	National
CPR	35.5%	39.2%
Public AED Use	12.5%	11.9%

The Bystander CPR Rate is the percentage of those that had CPR initiated by a lay person, lay person family member, or lay person medical provider for those where the arrest occurred prior to 911 arrival and was not in a nursing home, health care facility, physician's office or clinic.

The Public AED Use Rate is the percentage of those that had an AED first applied by a lay person, lay person family member, or lay person medical provider for those where the arrest occurred prior to 911 arrival and was not in a home/residence, nursing home, health care facility, physician's office or clinic.

# Western Maryland Health System opens Behavioral Health Emergency Department

Western Maryland Health System (WMHS) has opened its latest addition, a Behavioral Health Emergency Department (BHED), which adds to their extensive behavioral health support services program. The new BHED features eight patient rooms constructed as a safe space for its occupants. All ages, including adolescents, are eligible for admittance and a protected entry system separates the facility from the WMHS Emergency Department.

The new addition was built to provide a secure environment for care and treatment of patients with behavioral health emergencies, including opioid abuse and addiction issues. In 2017, 413 overdose patients were treated at the WMHS Emergency Department; 266 of which were opioid related. In 2018, those numbers decreased to 347 and 224 respectively. WMHS continues to enhance treatment for patients suffering from opioid addiction and abuse and has been put together a plan based



The ribbon cutting for the Western Maryland Health System's Behavioral Health Emergency Department was attended by State legislators, local representatives, and hospital personnel. Photo courtesy of WMHS.

on the needs of the patients. The new unit features increased security, safety, and staffing. The Western Maryland Health System

Behavioral Health Emergency Department is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day. For more information, log on to [www.wmhs.com](http://www.wmhs.com).

## PulsePoint Goes Live in Wicomico County



Wicomico County Executive Bob Culver (right) and Parsonsburg Fire Company Chief Eric Tyler announce the initiation of PulsePoint in the county. Photo courtesy of Mike Parsons.

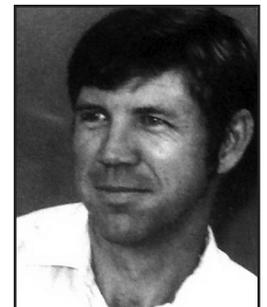
On May 23, 2019, Wicomico County went live with PulsePoint for the county. County Executive Bob Culver, in cooperation with the Wicomico County Fire and EMS companies, announced the public launch of the PulsePoint program. PulsePoint is a mobile application that alerts citizens to someone having a cardiac emergency in their area. The app is activated by computer interfaces in the Wicomico County Department of Emergency Services 9-1-1 Center. The app will only alert for incidents that occur in public places and

not residential homes for security and privacy reasons. PulsePoint empowers members of the general public to provide life-saving assistance to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. App users who have indicated they are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and willing to assist in case of an emergency can be notified if someone nearby is having a cardiac emergency and may require CPR. The purpose of the app is to increase survival rates

of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) victims by reducing the collapse to CPR time and defibrillation times as the app also provides locations of public automatic external defibrillation (AED) units. This helps strengthen the chain of survival for cardiac arrest victims. Wicomico County joins several other jurisdictions in Maryland that currently utilize PulsePoint. They are the first county on the Eastern Shore to implement this program.

## Dr. Lee Ross Passed Away

Dr. Lee Ross, one of the "founding fathers" of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) in Maryland, recently passed away. He worked with the team in Region I where he formed and led the regional CISM team for many years. He trained and mentored many CISM team members throughout the state and around the world. In 1987, he became a member of the Maryland Critical Incident Stress Management Team. He served as Region I coordinator and co-director of training. In 2018, Lee was inducted into the Region I EMS Hall of Fame. Dr. Ross also worked at the federal level with FEMA as a mental health provider in Florida after Hurricane Andrew and in North Carolina after Hurricane Floyd. He served with the Red Cross in the same capacity after Hurricanes Isabel, Ivan, and Katrina/Rita. Dr. Ross was Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Frostburg State University. While at Frostburg, he developed courses for the undergraduate program in Death and Dying, Social Psychology, and Adult Development. Under the Masters of Psychology Program, he developed courses in Professional, Ethical, and Legal Issues, and Crisis Intervention. He was a great supporter of all emergency services personnel and touched many lives and careers on both a personal and professional level.



Dr. Lee B. Ross, Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Frostburg State University, served as Region I CISM coordinator and co-director of basic training beginning in 1987.

# Utility Terrain Vehicles – from Concept to Capability

The Maryland-National Capital Region Emergency Response System (MDERS) provides its member organizations with the services to develop comprehensive emergency response capabilities. This includes dissecting a problem statement, developing a desired outcome state, and reverse engineering. The result is a full set of plans, organizations, equipment, trainings, and exercises that address the entire need. The case below highlights the benefits received from the MDERS methodology to address local needs.

Members of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS), Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department (PGFD), Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD), and Maryland ERS (MDERS) conducted a needs assessment to evaluate capabilities for off-road response to routine and large-scale events. The team focused on after action reports and incidents from all departments. That report identified a set of gaps that included policy development, equipment needs, and training requirements. Working with local leaders, MDERS received an allocation from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) to address those needs.

All departments developed a policy to address the technical rescue operations. Operational personnel completed training on the Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV). All vehicles, equipment, and training were purchased using UASI funds to address gaps in response, rescue, and evacuation of casualties from a terrorist incident, while also recognizing the dual use for routine emergency operations for each department. Montgomery and Prince George's County police and fire departments received a combination of 17 units with equipment and removable skids.

The training for vehicle operation requires two full days of hands-on instruction by staff in challenging remote locations. All personnel are required to complete an online training and driving course. The course is designed to provide the vehicle operator the knowledge and experience for trailer connection, operations, and maintenance. Personnel complete twelve hours of driving preparation, skills practice, and written evaluation. This capability offers emergency personnel a rapid response platform to deliver personnel, medical equipment, and patient transport access to remote areas.

The MCFRS and PGFD assigned these assets to various stations. The police departments assigned these vehicles to their Special Operations Sections. Each UTV is stored in a weather-protected trailer with supporting supplies for quick deployment. Each department secured funds to allocate support vehicles to tow the trailers, establish facility upgrades for the electrical power source to charge all equipment, and to provide designated interior storage space. This cooperative arrangement provides the communities of Montgomery and Prince George's County the resources necessary to respond to an emergency incident, even in austere terrain.

Each UTV provides seating to deliver four personnel to the scene of an off road or remote incident. The frame design allows easy configuration changes for load carry, emergency medical service response, and protected patient transport. Designed as an off road vehicle, the frame is lightweight, extremely durable, and equipped with a winch capable of moving 3,000 pounds. Lighting for the vehicle is provided by an energy efficient LED mounted system. These features provide safety benefits to the rescuers, patients, and bystanders.

The Maryland-National Capital Region Emergency Response System (MDERS) is a federally-funded grant program administered by MIEMSS. Please contact Mike McAdams, Planning & Organization Program Manager, at [michael.mcadams@maryland.gov](mailto:michael.mcadams@maryland.gov) for additional information.



*All operational personnel are required to complete an online training and driving course using the Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTVs). The training for vehicle operation requires two full days of hands-on instruction by staff in challenging remote locations. Photos courtesy of Maryland ERS.*

# ‘Signal Woman’ Campaign Urges Drivers, Pedestrians, and Bicyclists to Share the Road Safely

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), along with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) and government and law enforcement officials throughout the Baltimore region, recently launched *Look Alive*, a new campaign to raise awareness of pedestrian and bicyclist safety. According to the Governor’s Highway Safety Association, the biggest factors in pedestrian and bicyclist deaths are vehicle speed, distraction, time of day and alcohol use. While traffic fatalities in Maryland declined last year overall, the number of pedestrians killed on state roads in 2018 was 133, an increase of 12 percent from 2017. About half of Maryland’s 2018 pedestrian fatalities occurred in the Baltimore region. Along with MDOT and BMC, partners in the *Look Alive* initiative include the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and government agencies in Baltimore City and Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Howard, Harford, Carroll and Queen Anne’s counties. The campaign brings the familiar “walk” signal icon to life in the character of Signal Woman, who appears in a commercial wearing a white jump suit with reflective lines to replicate the signal’s pixelated look. She interacts with pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers, reminding everyone to be safe and look out for each other. The commercial, filmed in Baltimore, will appear on television and social media. The *Look Alive* campaign, which runs through the fall, integrates television, outdoor ads, digital engagement, community outreach, and media relations to relay the message of safety and awareness.

Another component of the campaign includes high visibility traffic safety enforcement. Police departments from Baltimore City and Baltimore, Anne Arundel and Howard counties, as well as sheriff’s offices in Carroll, Harford and Queen Anne’s counties, will participate in enforcement waves.

For more information about *Look Alive*, visit [lookalivemd.org](http://lookalivemd.org). Learn about the Maryland Highway Safety Office’s *Toward Zero Deaths* campaign at [towardzerodeathsmd.com](http://towardzerodeathsmd.com), on Facebook at [TowardZeroDeathsMD](https://www.facebook.com/TowardZeroDeathsMD), on Twitter at [@tzd\\_maryland](https://twitter.com/tzd_maryland) and on Instagram at [twdzero-deaths\\_md](https://www.instagram.com/twdzero-deaths_md).



*Chrissy Nizer, administrator of Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) and Governor Larry Hogan’s Highway Safety Representative, describes details of the pedestrian and bicyclist safety campaign during the recent announcement.*



*“Signal Woman” poses in front of a few examples of the campaign’s safety messages.*

## Maryland is Updating the Statewide EMS Plan 2020

Maryland is in the process of updating the Statewide EMS Plan 2020 and would like your input! There are several ways to participate. Comments and input may be provided by going to the MIEMSS website and clicking on the banner that says “MIEMSS is updating the Maryland EMS Plan”. There is a downloadable form where you can enter your comments. You may either download it and submit it, print the completed form and fax it to 410-706-4768, or write legibly on the form itself and fax it. There are seventeen sections to the Plan. The sections are:

- |                                      |                         |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Integration of Health Services    | 7. Education / Training | 13. Information Systems                                      |
| 2. Research                          | 8. Public Education     | 14. Evaluation   |
| 3. Legislation & Regulation / Policy | 9. Prevention           | 15. Resource Management / Transportation                     |
| 4. System Finance                    | 10. Public Access       | 16. Hospital Systems of Care                                 |
| 5. Human Resources                   | 11. Communications      | 17. System Preparedness and Response to Extraordinary Events |
| 6. Medical Direction                 | 12. Clinical Care       |  |

Please submit a separate form (on next page) for each section of the EMS Plan for which you would like to comment. Statewide input is crucial to support all interests of the public and EMS communities for Maryland’s EMS system.



# Maryland EMS Plan 2020

## Comments / Input

### EMS Plan Sections

1. Integration of Health Services
2. Research
3. Legislation & Regulation / Policy
4. System Finance
5. Human Resources
6. Medical Direction
7. Education / Training

8. Public Education
9. Prevention
10. Public Access
11. Communications
12. Clinical Care
13. Information Systems
14. Evaluation

15. Resource Management / Transportation
16. Hospital Systems of Care
17. System Preparedness and Response to Extraordinary Events

*\*Please write legibly*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact Information

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**EMS Plan Section:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Please submit a form for each section)

### Comments/Input:

**MIEMSS, *Maryland EMS News***  
**653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536**



**Governor Larry Hogan**  
**Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford**

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Emergency Medical Services Systems  
653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536  
[www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org)

*Chairman, EMS Board:* Clay B. Stamp, NRP  
*Executive Director, MIEMSS:*  
Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH

*Design & Layout:* Gail Kostas  
*Photography:* Jim Brown & Brian Slack  
(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)