



**Emergency Medical Services Committee
Annual Report
July 2018**

As it was last year, it has been a busy year for the Ohio Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services (EMFTS) Board. Included in the following report are some of the major highlights of the EMFTS Board and its efforts, along with some upcoming plans.

- Since the July 2017 annual report, a seat on the EMFTS Board was added by law. The seat nominating organization is the Ohio EMS Chiefs Association. The EMFTS Board now has a total of 21 seats, and as of this time, all seats have finally been filled with appointments by the Governor's Office.
- Several position papers were put out by the EMFTS Board over the past year, including revisions to previous position papers (all of these resources may be found at <http://www.ems.ohio.gov/about-papers.aspx>):
 - *Clarification of "Appropriate Training" under OAC Rules*
 - *Electronic Technologies and the Impact on EMS*
 - *EMS Providers and the Emergency Medical Records*
 - *Interfacility Transports of Patients and the Scope of Practice*
 - *Rapid Sequence Induction (RSI) for Endotracheal Intubation*
 - *Use of Capnography and Capnometry for Patients in the Prehospital Setting*
 - *The Evolution of EMS Response to Active Shooter Incidents*
 - *Mobile Integrated Healthcare*
 - *The Impact of High-Potency Opioids on EMS, First Response, and Healthcare Communities*
 - *Electronic Technologies and Prehospital EKGs.*
- Approved *Rescue Task Force, Response to Active Shooter Incidents Awareness Training* for all levels of EMS certification in Ohio. The training provides information on the rescue task force concept. Initial EMT and EMT applicants will be required to have this training to gain initial certification. Renewal applicants will be required to take the online training during a renewal cycle. EMS providers will be required to take the training only one time, as this will not be a recurring requirement like the *Trauma Triage Course*. The training will be required upon the effective date of changes to the Ohio Administrative Code, expected the first quarter of 2019. In the meantime, an online version is available. It can be found on the Public Safety Training Campus (<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>) where students would enroll in WBT906 – Rescue Task Force Awareness Training 2018. In addition, a direct delivery version is available to accredited EMS training institutions. It can be accessed through the program director portal on the Division of EMS website.
- Over 1,000 Android and iOS tablets have been awarded to EMS agencies throughout Ohio pursuant to a grant through the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the Ohio Traffic Safety Office, and the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee. The only stipulations for the tablets was reporting to the EMSIRS system and downloading of OHTrac, a patient tracking application onto the devices.
- ODEMS conducted regional CHEMPAK trainings from May through June 2018. CHEMPAK courses can be obtained on the Public Safety Training Campus

(<https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>) and enrolling in WBT901 – EMSCHEMPACK.

- The National Ebola Training and Education Center (NETEC) is working on an EMS clinical biosafety training program which includes an awareness curriculum, operations curriculum, technician curriculum and train-the-trainer materials. Information will be disseminated on the EMS website.
- Ballistic vests and helmets, along with a luminometer, were added to the EMS Training Grants and Equipment list.
- ODEMS is interested in attrition rates for fire and EMS providers. When a provider does not renew their EMS certification, they will receive a survey, an initiative that began as of January 1, 2018, as to why they are not renewing. Once one year of data is collected, ODEMS will report this information to the EMFTS Board to see what patterns are evolving, if any.
- The EMFTS Board and ODEMS have begun implementation of a strategic plan for the future of EMS in Ohio. There are five specific goals (with objectives and tactics to reach each goal) in the plan:
 - *To improve the quality of patient care*
 - *To improve population health through prevention and wellness*
 - *To enhance human resources*
 - *To improve access to healthcare*
 - *To improve system sustainability*
- The EMFTS Board has been working to update the EMS Scope of Practice to ensure EMS providers can perform their duties in an ever-changing patient care environment, e.g. community paramedicine. Recent changes to the EMS Scope of Practice include ultrasound-guided peripheral venous access when approved by the medical director and appropriately trained, and blood and body fluid analysis, with the exception of amniotic fluid.
- The Ohio Patient Tracking System (OHTrac), which has been utilized by some hospitals in emergency and disaster planning for a few years now is now in over its first year of use for public safety agencies. This system will allow patient tracking from the field to the hospital and through to discharge. See <http://ems.ohio.gov/critical.aspx#ohtrac> for more information. Recipients of the EMS Tablet Grant are required to download this app as a condition of the grant.

A special thanks to Ohio Division of EMS Executive Director Melvin House for his assistance in preparing this report. Should there be any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. You are also encouraged to contact ODEMS with questions or needs as well.

Professionally,



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