

Memo

To: Ms. Anne Beauch
From: Chief Steve Kelly
cc: OFCA Executive Board, Director Fitzgibbon
Date: July 10, 2022
Re:

The Policy Committee has been working diligently this past year to concentrate on four main areas of focus and has worked to assist with legislative efforts as they have developed in each area.

- Training and Scope of Practice – Chief Donahue and Chief Westendorf
 - Worked to develop a formal recommendation to the Executive Board that the EMFTS Board be designated as the entity with authority for fire and EMS training and that they would be charged with identifying a process for vetting any proposed changes, including public hearings, for all state-required fire and EMS training.
- PTSD and Peer Support – Chief Kelly
 - Monitored the status of the OP&F actuarial study on PTS and the presumption clause that could be put in place. No formal action has been taken at this time but OP&F is working on a five-year pilot program with OSU, so this will require monitoring for quite some time.
 - A great deal of work was done with HB 545 – Peer Support to review, discuss and prepare to support the legislation that finally proposed in 2022. Moving past that, additional work has been done to ensure that it is supported through the House to the Senate, and we continue to work with the Legislative Committee on all efforts to ensure its success.
 - Assisted with the development of guidance and a business plan for the OFCA to pursue the ARPA funding for first responder health and wellness initiatives.
- Time Critical Diagnosis – Chief Gallo

- Worked to develop a formal recommendation to the Executive Board that Time Critical Diagnosis should be addressed through rules that the EMFTS Board and RPAB would oversee rather than through the various legislation that seems to be routinely proposed in each General Assembly. Director Fitzgibbon and Mr. Fitzpatrick met with the ODPS staff to coordinate this moving forward.
- Community Paramedicine and Public Health – Chief Nofziger and Chief Ramm
 - This was a new subcommittee that was established in September. Thank you to Chief Nofziger and Chief Ramm for partnering to start up and head this committee.
 - Currently working to research policies and legislation in other states to support a reimbursement model for community paramedicine to qualify for insurance coverage. Will have a recommendation to the full Policy Committee by August to be able to review and present to the OFCA Executive Board for consideration.

The Policy Committee is welcoming of all ideas for consideration of research and potential policy development. We are excited to continue to work collaboratively with the Legislative Committee to support and advance legislation that directly impacts the ability to deliver critical services to our local communities.

Respectfully submitted by Chief Steve Kelly