

Activation of National Ambulance Contract Notification Procedures

Recommended by the National Association of State EMS Officials



Background

Following the 2005 Hurricane season, FEMA sought to establish a comprehensive EMS response to federally declared disasters. The government solicited proposals and AMR was awarded the exclusive contract to provide a full array of ground ambulance, air ambulance and para-transit services to supplement the federal and military response to a disaster, act of terrorism or other public health emergency. There may be times when simultaneous response is needed to multiple catastrophic disasters.

The following notification procedures are recommended so that the State EMS Offices are kept informed of catastrophic events in which EMS assets are needed as well as assure that deployment of these assets does not occur without awareness of the state from which the EMS assets are coming from or to which they are being relocated.

Recommendations

Pre-Deployment: Potential that the National Ambulance Contract will be activated:

- FEMA contacts the NASEMSO Executive Director or designee and NASEMSO President via email and telephone (both business and mobile numbers will be provided)
- NASEMSO will arrange a conference call bridge and convene a conference call of the Notification Group within 3 hours of notification by FEMA
- The following members will be notified to participate on the call:
 - NASEMSO Executive Director or designee
 - NASEMSO President,
 - NASEMSO President-Elect,
 - NASEMSO Domestic Preparedness Committee Chair,
 - NASEMSO Domestic Preparedness Program Manager,
 - NASEMSO Regional Representatives,
 - EMS Directors from affected states,
 - FEMA official(s),
- After the conference call, a situational report will be provided by the Regional Representatives to all state/territory EMS Directors as well as situation updates as they become available from FEMA.
- EMS Regional Representative will provide a summary to the NASEMSO Executive Director or designee of the results of their update to the states in their region

Deployment/Activation of the National Ambulance Contract:

- The same steps as above will be followed
- Additional conference calls and updates will be scheduled as needed by NASEMSO leadership until the situation resolves.

For More Information

Joe Schmider, Chair, Domestic Preparedness Committee: jschmider@state.pa.us

Leslee Stein-Spencer, Staff, Domestic Preparedness Committee: stein-spencer@nasemso.org

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The National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials was established in 1980 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Members include 56 state and territorial EMS directors, medical directors, training coordinators, data managers, trauma managers, EMS for Children managers plus corporate and associate members. NASEMSO's vision is a seamless nationwide network of coordinated and accountable state, regional and local EMS and emergency care systems. The systems use public health principles, data and evidence as a basis for safe and effective care in day-to-day operations as well as during catastrophic events. NASEMSO supports its members in developing EMS policy and oversight, as well as in providing vision, leadership and resources in the development and improvement of state, regional and local EMS and emergency care systems. **These notification procedures were developed by NASEMSO after meeting with FEMA and AMR to identify the problem and determine the best solution to ensure awareness of deployment of EMS assets.**