Welcome to the Joint National EMS Leadership Forum

May 15, 2013
Arlington, VA
The mission of the Joint National Emergency Medical Services Leadership Forum (JNEMSLF) is to facilitate a shared vision, collaboration, and unity in purpose to improve emergency medical services and conditions that affect emergency medical services throughout the country.

It is the vision of the JNEMSLF that timely, stable and accountable local and regional emergency medical services systems with the capacity and performance to ensure optimal patient outcomes must be available throughout the United States. The JNEMSLF will achieve this vision through:

- Maintaining contemporary and mutual awareness of the priorities, challenges, and accomplishments of national associations with a leadership role in emergency medical services systems in the United States
- Fostering an environment of trust and information exchange among and between national EMS associations and partners in the executive branch of the federal government
- Identifying matters of mutual importance and developing consensus-based positions for emergency medical services stakeholders and partners at the all levels – local through federal
- Serving as a collective voice for interactions with federal and national organizations when a multi-association, multidisciplinary educational approach is of benefit to all stakeholders
JNEMSLF AGENDA

• Introductions, welcome new members:
  – National Academies of Emergency Dispatch
  – National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians
  – International Trauma Life Support

• Agenda Review/Additions
• NAEMT Update re: CP Survey
• Emerging Priorities/Select Action Topics
• NEMSIS: progress and next steps
• Federal Partner Updates
• Select Next Meeting Date Range (to be held in conjunction with EMS Expo September 8-12 in Las Vegas)
• Adjourn by 4:30 pm
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Burning Platforms 05/13
Merger of State EMS with PH Preparedness

• State EMS offices being assimilated into public health?
• Increasing trend is the merger of PH Preparedness with/into EMS office without losing sight of either
• Funding should have been going to EMS all along but it wasn’t
• PH Preparedness, including ESF-8 (health & medical), CDC 15 core capabilities
• If practitioners don’t understand what is happening, it looks like EMS is “going away” or being folded into something else
Burning Platforms 05/13
Merger of State EMS with PH Preparedness

• Perception that it is dilution or “taken over”
• May be a state considering merger under emergency management
• Outreach needs to accentuate the positive
• Transparency is needed

• Benefit in a state that is combined results in hospital administrators, district/local health agencies, and EMS getting to know each other
• Can elevate the office and more effectively interact with other units of government
Burning Platforms 05/13
Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

• Keen interest in DC about the EMS response, what went well, what didn’t
• NTSB
• Is there a repository of information that is readily and swiftly available assessing the response and identifying needs?
• Multiple on-going reviews happening at all levels of government for all of the recent incidents
• Very real interest in the federal government to look at these responses differently
• Boston capability predicated on 25 years of practice
Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- What is the role of federal preparedness money
- Merger of EMS with PH preparedness good for tying practitioners with policy and practice
- Metrics may be something JNEMSLF can assist with
- Another set of challenges that feds face attempting to collect information about low frequency high criticality events

- CDC blast injury resources were distributed 56 hours after the event—we need to do a better job of that
- Role of the bystander, how do we change our culture?
- All federal partners are discussing this, this is a great series of things to work on
Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- Can’t wait for a report to come out a year later
- When a fusion center has a dedicated EMS mission, there would be real time awareness of the EMS & emergency care response and performance
- Boston being a resource rich environment is one factor

- Understanding via metrics
- Example of Texas, PHP had chosen mass casualty response as one of their three priorities
- Action item is the creation of the repository that can be rapidly populated and accessed
- Is the JNEMSLF the forum?
- There have been improvements of information sharing between DHS & FBI
Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- DHS and FBI sent notice the following morning to all state & local EMS organizations
- Perhaps we need to separate the policy from the operational issues
- The former is a way to replicate success
- They could only be successful
• Employer mandate requirements to provide health insurance to “employees”
• If the employer receives a subsidy but the employee does not receive insurance through the exchange the employer is fined

• NHTSA sought counsel from the IRS attorneys
• Several options: write a special rule or provide examples/instructions
• If there are more than 50 employees that work more than 30 hours in a pay period, the organization is responsible to provide benefits or a $2000/worker/year fine
Burning Platforms 05/13
ACA and Insurance Coverage

• May do a carve out in the rule and/or include an example specific to EMS
• Effective January 1, 2014
• Local EMS agencies making changes to scheduling, capping hours
• Combination career/volunteer likely to exceed the threshold
• Requirements of June and October, can’t wait until January 1 to select how to conform

• Is there a way JNEMSLF member organizations can share intel? Can inform but not influence
• NHTSA shared the BLS definition of volunteer
• Final rule should be published by September 30
• AAA having a legal analysis performed, will share results
Medicare Extenders

• Expire 12/31/13
• Hold harmless agreement runs out at the end of June
• Already a sequester driven cut of 2% as of April 1
Action Items

• NAEMT launching survey tomorrow
• JNEMSLF members will distribute, issue two reminders, survey closes 7/1/13
• RedFlash/NCEMSI assisting with analysis
• AAA sharing legal analysis results re ACA
• NVFC sharing NaTT comments
• NHTSA will continue wo interact with the IRS
• NASEMSO will send Model Interstate Compact FAQs to JNEMSLF members
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JNEMSLF 2013 Meeting Schedule

• Week of September 8-12 2013 @ EMS World Expo

• November/December 2013? (Gregg Lord made gracious offer of meeting space)
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