

November 2013

Wyoming Office of EMS

Chief's Corner

Dear EMS Colleague,

I hope this finds you well and that you are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. Here are a few of the latest changes:

A New Face to Wyoming EMS

As you are probably aware, we are doing some reorganizing within the Office of EMS. Recently I posted a position for an EMS Education and Compliance Supervisor, and I am happy to announce that I have hired Mr. Brandon Kelley in that position.

Brandon is a firefighter and paramedic and began his career as a volunteer with Bethany Salem Volunteer Fire Department in Jasper, Georgia, in 1999. He moved his way up the ranks through that department as an EMT-Intermediate to the rank of Assistant Chief, and took full-time employment with Cherokee County Fire and Emergency Services in Cherokee County, Georgia. Along the way, he has served as a Training Coordinator, and EMT Instructor in the Georgia system. Brandon and his family will be relocating to Cheyenne in November and he will start work on November 14.

In this new position, Brandon will assume the duties of the EMSC grant, assist Brittany with the Hospital Preparedness Grant (focusing on the EMS aspects of the grant) and will act in a supervisory role to Coleen, Bob, and Jay.

The intent behind this restructuring is to continue to streamline and coordinate our processes in the Office, and I am confident that Brandon will be an excellent addition to our team.

A New Approach to EMT Classes:

One of the big challenges that Brandon will be overseeing is changing how we oversee and support EMT classes. We have already changed some of processes regarding how classes are managed, but I believe we can do more. This will represent a major policy shift for us in the future. Beginning with the classes that initiate in the spring, we will be making the following changes:

Class Schedule

Our Office will no longer set the class schedule. We will assist you by providing the topics and content that must be delivered during the course, but the Instructor/Coordinator will determine when and how often the class will meet in order to deliver the content. This has already been done to a certain

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extent, but now we are putting total flexibility in managing the schedule in the hands of the Coordinator. The Coordinator will also be able to exercise wider discretion in determining when the content has been delivered adequately. This should allow local classes to tailor the schedule and material to meet their local needs.

Documentation

As we hand more responsibility for these courses to the Instructor/Coordinator, the expectation will be that accurate records of the student's performance during the class will be kept.

Future Changes

What we hope to implement in the future is a wider range of EMT courses occurring throughout the year in a greater number of places. We will be pushing out more detailed guidance on how all of this will work.

I am sure that there will be more changes forthcoming as we continue to reorganize and change how we do things. I very much appreciate your help and patience, and will continue to do whatever we can to assist all of you.

Sincerely,



Andy Gienapp
Manager
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