

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Ambulance Services  
Governor's EMS Advisory Committee  
Physician Medical Directors  
Physician Task Force on Prehospital Care  
Fire Chiefs  
Trauma Coordinators

From: EMS Office

Date: October 25, 2006

Subject: Office Update

November is the time to remind EMS personnel and ambulance services that they need to have their business licenses renewed before the end of December and that EMTs, who are scheduled to recertify this year, are to submit their recertification materials by December 1<sup>st</sup> to insure that their certifications are renewed before they expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. For those EMTs needing to take the recertification examination you will need to schedule a time at the EMS Office or with one of the trainers when they are in your area after November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Tracey Jones has been busy with hospital site reviews, regional trauma meetings, and working with trauma coordinators across the state. Her enthusiasm is evident wherever she goes. Jay is working with Tracey to get the trauma registry data up to date as several facilities have fallen behind in submitting their data. It is hoped that within the next several years there will be a move away from the present trauma registry to one that is more "user friendly" and tailored to Wyoming's needs. Further information will be forthcoming as this project goes forward.

EMT class coordinators are reminded that if they are anticipating on holding a spring EMT-Basic or EMT-Intermediate class that you need to have your class request into the EMS Office before November 15<sup>th</sup> so that the trainers can plan their spring travel schedules. A reminder to all class coordinators that effective with this fall's cycle of classes the use of the National Registry for final written testing has been phased out. EMS trainers will have information and explain the procedures to follow for those who are interested in taking the National Registry examination upon successful completion of their class.

Enclosed with this mailing is the latest information from the Wyoming Association of Prehospital Providers (WAPP). Wil Gay, President asked that we enclose this with our next mailing. For further information on WAPP contact them directly at: Wyoming Association of Prehospital Providers, Attn: Lauri Wempen, 1052 Petersdorf Drive, Riverton, WY 82501.

Recent inquiries as to what constitutes an “approved” Paramedic training program have surfaced with several Wyoming EMT students enrolled in a “fast track” Paramedic program offered by the Texas Engineering Extension Service in College Station, Texas. This program has not been approved by the EMS Office. The EMS Office has the legal responsibility to evaluate any out of state EMS training program to insure that our EMS students are receiving quality EMS education. This particular program has not been reviewed by the EMS Office or the Physician Task Force on Prehospital Care. As such, students attending this program will not be eligible for Paramedic certification. They will be issued EMT-Intermediate certification with the stipulation that they will work under the guidance and direction of their identified physician medical director as an EMT-Intermediate until such time that the medical director is comfortable with their knowledge base and skill level at which time they will be required to take and pass the EMS Office’s Paramedic examination. The EMS Office is in contact with this program so that the program may be reviewed by the Task Force and details worked out on the specifics of acceptable clinical and field internship requirements for Wyoming EMTs attending this program. The EMS Office extends their thanks to Jay Johnson, NREMT-P, Director of Converse County Ambulance Service in bringing this program to their attention. Any EMT contemplating attending an out-of-state Paramedic program is encouraged to contact the EMS Office for determination of program acceptability.

Recent questions have arisen on what constitutes a “nominal fee” permissible to an employee in order to maintain their “volunteer” status is being reviewed by the OEMS’s Attorney General representative. Thanks to efforts by Chief Gary Scott of Campbell County Fire Department and other fire agencies the U.S. Department of Labor issued a statement indicating that a volunteer may receive “up to 20% of the prevailing wage for the position” and still maintain his “volunteer” status. Copies of this letter have been forwarded to all ambulance services as it will apply to many volunteer EMS providers. If your agency has not received a copy of this letter contact the EMS Office and one will be provided to you. Chief Scott and the State Fire Chiefs Association have been working on this clarification for a number of years. Our thanks to them for their efforts in obtaining some form of clarification of what a volunteer may receive without losing their volunteer status.

Word has been received that Larry Macy, NREMT-P, Director of Vase EMS has resigned and will pursue other interests. Larry has been involved in Wyoming EMS since the 1995 and director at Vase EMS for the past four years. Larry has been instrumental in the coordinating of the Red Desert Trauma Conference held in Rock Springs.



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Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., Director and State Health Officer

Governor Dave Freudenthal

The next Ambulance Administrators/Physician Medical Directors Conference is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 4-5, 2007. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Casper. Jay Ostby will hold a preconference data workshop prior to the Friday evening get together. Further information and registration forms will be forthcoming.

The 37<sup>th</sup> Wyoming Trauma Conference will be held in Cheyenne on August 23 -26, 2007. Speakers are being contacted. An "early bird" registration will again be offered.

Attachment: WAPP letter

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