



## **NASEMSO Agency & Vehicle Licensure Committee Meeting**

Thursday, December 27, 2012 • 12:00 p.m. Eastern time

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/join/280460906>

Dial +1 (510) 443-0605 Access Code: 280-460-906

### **AGENDA**

#### **Call to Order / Call Roll / Approve Agenda**

Chair Brian Litza called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm EST.

#### **Members Present:**

Scott Braun (Associate Member/Braun Ambulances)

Doug Crunk (AZ)

Joe Ferrell (IA)

Pat Irwin (NV)

Skip Johnson (??)

Elizabeth Johnston (CT)

Carol Jorgenson (NE)

Brian Litza (WI)

Tom Mitchell (NC)

Clay Odell (NH)

#### **Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) requests have been filed with the National Fire Protection Association**

With assistance from the ambulance manufacturer industry and national associations representing ambulance purchasers and users, the AVL Committee TIAs requesting deletion of the requirement of a speed limiter set at 77 mph, and extensive revision to the section related to documentation exchanges between manufacturers and purchasers and limitations on purchasers about non-conforming ambulance use were submitted to NFPA. The TIAs are posted [here](#). Additional discussion about the TIAs occurred under the rule drafting item below.

#### **The General Services Administration granted our request to delay cancellation of the KKK Specifications until October 1, 2015**

Correspondence approved by the NASEMSO Board of Directors was sent to the [General Services Administration Automotive](#) Director on December 7 requesting a delay of cancellation of the Federal Star of Life Ambulance Vehicle Specification until October 1, 2015. An affirmative response was received on December 11. This creates a temporary but important relief valve for states that have incorporated the [KKK specifications](#) in whole or part in state regulations. The correspondence is posted [here](#).

#### **NASEMSO is forming a workgroup to provide substantive comment to the NFPA 1917 revision process.**

NASEMSO has filed a request with NFPA to establish a short term workgroup to provide substantive comment to the NFPA 1917 Technical Committee when it initiates the revision process, into which NFPA 1917 was immediately placed. This nine person group, which will be comprised of a subset of the

MRAVD project team members, will provide more detailed review and comment on the remaining 40+ components of NFPA 1917 which differ from the KKK specifications with a priority focus on components related to safety and a desire for cosmetic or non-evidence based characteristics to be deleted or moved to an annex of optional features. A response from NFPA about the process to establish this workgroup is pending.

**The NASEMSO AVL Committee will defer drafting model rules related to ambulance vehicle design until after the NFPA Technical Committee decision, which should be finalized in January or February 2013.**

- a priority focus on components related to safety and a desire for cosmetic or non-evidence based characteristics should be deleted or moved to an annex of optional features
- pull elements out of NFPA, KKK and merge them into a minimum set of requirements, then any vehicle built “above” the standard will meet the state’s requirements
- states can still add any unique requirements—but would they be few and far between if the model rule adequately addresses safety
- states that do not incorporate KKK by reference today may be inclined to adopt a new standard if it is minimalist and doesn’t change frequently
- desire for the model to not point to a single standard
- reference in rule may be “the (State Name) version of the ABCD 1234 Standard”
- dilemma about how to proceed when there’s a plethora of standards
- some states have to point to a specific version and date of a published document, or lift all of the language from within the document and publish it as rule content
  - “NFPA 1917 as published in September 2012”
  - “NFPA 1917 as published in September 2012 with exceptions as listed in section ### of these rules”
  - “Standards as published by NASEMSO in 2013”
  - “ASTM 2020 as published in September 2013”
  - States could point to all published specifications set by accredited standards development organizations, let the purchaser choose which one
- Have the task group of the MRAVD meeting go through the comparison document and select only those elements related to safety
- NASEMSO is not an accredited standards development organization
- Ideally there should be only one standard—what NFPA does with the TIAs will be an indicator of how cognizant they are of us as customers. NFPA is familiar to states due to fire codes. If they demonstrate they are willing to make the standard work for the states that will be important. If not, ASTM could be plan B but it would be critical to have it be an accredited SDO.
- What if the state listed subsections of a standard, the ambulance couldn’t get the “sticker” certifying the ambulance
- The KKK references AMD and SAE, but those standards stipulate how tests should be performed to demonstrate that a particular design meets a specification
- AMD gave up some of their testing standards to NFPA pertaining to ergonomics, safety, retention of objects, etc. There are 25 total. NTEA unlikely to be interested in standards setting.
- Important to understand the motives of the SDO. Sales of standards are an effect of the workload downstream. KKK was developed because there was not an SDO-created spec and the feds needed to buy ambulances, in the future they will do so utilizing the NFPA specifications

- The patient care compartments of ambulances are exempt from the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. This could be simplified with a federal mandate. NIOSH does not have the authority to set standards for ambulances
- NFPA 1917 Technical Committee has been notified that the TIAs are in process, they will hopefully get their ballots soon. NFPA staff recommended an informal poll of MRAVD members that are technical committee members to show the extent of support to other NFPA technical committee members. Individuals could reach out to individual members to persuade them, and there may not be an organized conference call among the technical committee members.
- How NFPA responds to the TIAs should drive the direction we take for the model rules.
- Only two months remain until the NASEMSO Midyear Meeting, and even if the NFPA decision is swift and suitable, only one month will be available—since it's likely that we'll need to make a strategic decision about how to move forward, this should only be a Board of Directors agenda item at the midyear.

**The third meeting of the MRAVD project team was under consideration for being scheduled in early April 2013 but the committee decided that timing is premature and it will be postponed.**

#### **Next AVL Committee Meeting**

The next standing occurrence is Thursday January 24 at 12:00 EST. The agenda and decision to conduct the meeting will be based on NFPA progress with the TIAs.

#### **New Business/Other**

None.

#### **Adjourned at 1:17 pm EST**

*Minutes compiled by Dia Gainor*