



National Association of State EMS Officials

201 Park Washington Court • Falls Church, VA 22046-4527 • www.nasemso.org
703-538-1799 • fax 703-241-5603 • info@nasemso.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Dawn M. Shiley
(703) 538-3542

News Release

NASEMSO Executive Director Dia Gainor Presented with Idaho Distinguished Service Medal and Governor's Challenge Coin

May 16, 2011 (Falls Church, Va.) NASEMSO Executive Director Dia Gainor on Friday, May 13, 2011, received the highest award the Idaho Military Division may bestow upon a civilian, the Idaho Distinguished Service Medal. Additionally, she received the Idaho Governor's Challenge Coin.

Brigadier General William H. Shawver, Jr., assistant adjutant general, Air Idaho National Guard, and director of the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security presented, the Distinguished Service Medal to Gainor at the Len B. Jordan Building on the Idaho Capitol Mall. The citation for the Distinguished Service Medal issued by Major General Gary Saylor, commanding general of the Idaho National Guard and Idaho Military Division, reads:

"Presented for exceptionally meritorious service to Idaho and to the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security. Dia was appointed to serve on the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council from its inception in 2003, as well as the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission (ECC) from its formation in 2004. These two entities have greatly benefited from Dia's superb subject matter expertise as well as her professional demeanor. Ms. Gainor played a pivotal role in the development of local governance as it applies to interoperable communications as well as ensuring federal funding opportunities were leveraged to enhance the statewide communications systems. In her role as Commissioner for the ECC, she was a driving force and primary designer of the current E911 grant program as well as assisting local Public Safety Answering Points obtain efficient and cost effective technology, greatly enhancing emergency dispatch. Ms. Gainor's selfless service coupled, with her outstanding leadership skill have immeasurably contributed to the safety of untold thousands. Dia brings great credit to herself, the EMS Bureau, the Idaho State Department of Health and Welfare, and the State of Idaho."

Jane Smith, administrator of the Idaho Division of Public Health, presented the Idaho Governor's Challenge Coin on behalf of Idaho Governor C. L. Otter "in gratitude for her service."

"My 19 years as state EMS director gave me so many opportunities to improve emergency care at a systems level," Gainor stated in acknowledging these high honors. "I am looking forward to continuing to serve the state of Idaho, however, along with all other states and territories, through my new position as executive director of the National Association of State EMS Officials."

Prior to coming to NASEMSO, Gainor was Idaho's State EMS Director for 19 years. She is a past president and treasurer of NASEMSO, and past chair of its Highway Incident & Transportation Systems Committee. Gainor's expertise is grounded in a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Health Services Administration, a Master's Degree in Public Administration, and 12 years of field experience as a paramedic and firefighter. In 2008, Gainor was appointed by Secretary Peters to serve on the National EMS Advisory Council to the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) and was selected by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to serve as the Council's first chair.

####

The National Association of State EMS Officials is the lead national organization for EMS, a respected voice for national EMS policy with comprehensive concern and commitment for the development of effective, integrated, community-based, universal and consistent EMS systems. Its members are the leaders of their state and territory EMS systems.