



# NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children (STC) Ad Hoc Committee

---

## MEETING RECORD

**October 20, 2016**

**1:00 PM EDT**

**Attending** – Eric Hicken (NJ), Katherine Schafer (NM), Katherine Hert (AL), Carolina Roberts-Santana (RI), Stephanie Busch (VT), Sandy Sinclair (NHTSA), Tom Winkler (PA), Kjelsey Polzin (MN), Katrina Altenhofen, Paul Phillips (KY), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Theresa Merk (AAMS), Elena Sierra (AAMS), Cyndy Wright-Johnson (MD), Dr. Marilyn Bull (Riley Hospital for Children at IU), Brandon Kelly (VT), Dan Sjoquist (Serenity Safety Products), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

**Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions** – Eric Hicken, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM EDT. It was noted that several of the committee members, including Dave Bryson, are at the NFPA 1917 Ambulance Standards Committee Meeting and unable to participate in today's call.

**Review and Approve September 19th Meeting Record** – The September 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting Record was approved as submitted.

**Status of National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP), Transportation Research Board (TRB) Problem Statement** – Mary Hedges reported that the problem statement that she, Jim Green and Dr. Marilyn Bull developed and submitted for funding the ambulance crash-testing research was ranked last by the subcommittee which screened several problem statements. She added that it was a worthwhile exercise to help flesh out what needs to be done. Others commented it was good to get our name and issue out for increased public awareness.

**Next Steps Discussion**– Katherine Schafer reported that she, Tom Winkler, Kjelsey Polzin, Brandon Kelley and Mary Hedges met yesterday to discuss ideas to keep the committee energized as we pursue long term goals. Two ideas discussed were the corporate outreach initiative and interim guidance initiative.

**Corporate Outreach Initiative** – Tom Winkler, who is leading this initiative, reported that he is considering insurance companies primarily, and mentioned Glatfelters, the parent company of VFIS, who he met at the NASEMSO Meeting in Albuquerque. They are also considering approaching air medical services. He saw Dr. Matt Maltese's suggestions in his recent email and will follow up with him. The intent is for a conglomeration of groups to help fund the long term goal of crash testing research. Eric suggested Johnson and Johnson,

Safe Kids and other corporations. Dr. Bull suggested considering Geico, Anthem-Wellpoint, State Farm, and other big insurers. Sandy Sinclair suggested partnering with Safe Kids although they may not have funding to contribute.

**Interim Guidance Initiative** – Brandon Kelley has agreed to lead the initiative to develop interim guidance for safely transporting children. He began drafting the guidance and would like feedback. One basic premise is to use the science already available and to focus on obvious measures (ensure the child fits, ensure potential projectiles are secured, etc.). Cyndy recommended adding information about the European and Australian standards and why they are different than those to be developed in this country. Stephanie suggested including discussion points for use when inquiring about new ambulance purchases. Dr. Bull asked about simplifying the 2012 NHTSA Best Practices document. She also requested a copy of Brandon's first draft of the interim guidance and offered to work on this initiative.

### **Federal Partner Comments/Update**

**NHTSA** – Sandy Sinclair provided an update on the document the NHTSA team has been developing, *NHTSA Safely Transporting Children in Ambulances Information and Recommendations*. He reported that the internal working document is being reviewed presently. It will include background information such as the various ambulance standards, cot standards and more. After it has been approved by NHTSA and federal partners, it will be released to the STC Committee. The goal is to wrap it up before the end of the year. Cyndy suggested sharing the table of contents with the group. Sandy said that could be done. Sandy added that Dave Bryson has scheduled a conference call with Eric, Mary and Tee Morrison-Quinata for tomorrow morning.

**Other** – Cyndy reported that Johns Hopkins Engineering recently completed a study regarding securing providers in the ambulance and found they are not always buckling up. She will try to arrange a presentation to the Committee once the report is made available.

**AAP Resolution** - Dr. Bull said she was pleased to see that the American Academy of Pediatrics will be voting on a resolution introduced by a pediatrician from North Dakota, which addresses the need for crash testing research for children transported by ambulance. Mary commented that Tim Wiedrich, who leads the Emergency Preparedness & Response Section at the North Dakota Department of Health was instrumental in developing the resolution. Tim had heard Jim Green's presentation at the Department of Homeland Security meeting last summer.

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

**Next Meeting** – November 23

*The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.*