

Welcome to the Joint National EMS Leadership Forum



May 15, 2013

Arlington, VA

The mission of the **Joint National Emergency Medical Services Leadership Forum** (JNEMSLF) is to facilitate a shared vision, collaboration, and unity in purpose to improve emergency medical services and conditions that affect emergency medical services throughout the country.

It is the vision of the **JNEMSLF** that timely, stable and accountable local and regional emergency medical services systems with the capacity and performance to ensure optimal patient outcomes must be available throughout the United States. The **JNEMSLF** will achieve this vision through:

- Maintaining contemporary and mutual awareness of the priorities, challenges, and accomplishments of national associations with a leadership role in emergency medical services systems in the United States
- Fostering an environment of trust and information exchange among and between national EMS associations and partners in the executive branch of the federal government
- Identifying matters of mutual importance and developing consensus-based positions for emergency medical services stakeholders and partners at the all levels – local through federal
- Serving as a collective voice for interactions with federal and national organizations when a multi-association, multidisciplinary educational approach is of benefit to all stakeholders

JNEMSLF AGENDA

- Introductions, welcome new members:
 - National Academies of Emergency Dispatch
 - National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians
 - International Trauma Life Support
- Agenda Review/Additions
- NAEMT Update re: CP Survey
- Emerging Priorities/Select Action Topics
- NEMSIS: progress and next steps
- Federal Partner Updates
- Select Next Meeting Date Range (to be held in conjunction with EMS Expo September 8-12 in Las Vegas)
- Adjourn by 4:30 pm

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Burning Platforms 05/13

Merger of State EMS with PH Preparedness

- State EMS offices being assimilated into public health?
- Increasing trend is the merger of PH Preparedness with/into EMS office without losing sight of either
- Funding should have been going to EMS all along but it wasn't
- PH Preparedness, including ESF-8 (health & medical), CDC 15 core capabilities
- If practitioners don't understand what is happening, it looks like EMS is "going away" or being folded into something else

Burning Platforms 05/13

Merger of State EMS with PH Preparedness

- Perception that it is dilution or “taken over”
- May be a state considering merger under emergency management
- Outreach needs to accentuate the positive
- Transparency is needed
- Benefit in a state that is combined results in hospital administrators, district/local health agencies, and EMS getting to know each other
- Can elevate the office and more effectively interact with other units of government

Burning Platforms 05/13

Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- Keen interest in DC about the EMS response, what went well, what didn't
- NTSB
- Is there a repository of information that is readily and swiftly available assessing the response and identifying needs?
- Multiple on-going reviews happening at all levels of government for all of the recent incidents
- Very real interest in the federal government to look at these responses differently
- Boston capability predicated on 25 years of practice

Burning Platforms 05/13

Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- What is the role of federal preparedness money
- Merger of EMS with PH preparedness good for tying practitioners with policy and practice
- Metrics may be something JNEMSLF can assist with
- Another set of challenges that feds face attempting to collect information about low frequency high criticality events
- CDC blast injury resources were distributed 56 hours after the event—we need to do a better job of that
- Role of the bystander, how do we change our culture?
- All federal partners are discussing this, this is a great series of things to work on

Burning Platforms 05/13

Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- Can't wait for a report to come out a year later
- When a fusion center has a dedicated EMS mission, there would be real time awareness of the EMS & emergency care response and performance
- Boston being a resource rich environment is one factor
- Understanding via metrics
- Example of Texas, PHP had chosen mass casualty response as one of their three priorities
- Action item is the creation of the repository that can be rapidly populated and accessed
- Is the JNEMSLF the forum?
- There have been improvements of information sharing between DHS & FBI

Burning Platforms 05/13

Response to Mass Casualty Incidents

- DHS and FBI sent notice the following morning to all state & local EMS organizations
- Perhaps we need to separate the policy from the operational issues
- The former is a way to replicate success
- They could only be successful

Burning Platforms 05/13

ACA and Insurance Coverage

- Employer mandate requirements to provide health insurance to “employees”
- If the employer receives a subsidy but the employee does not receive insurance through the exchange the employer is fined
- NHTSA sought counsel from the IRS attorneys
- Several options: write a special rule or provide examples/instructions
- If there are more than 50 employees that work more than 30 hours in a pay period, the organization is responsible to provide benefits or a \$2000/worker/year fine

Burning Platforms 05/13

ACA and Insurance Coverage

- May do a carve out in the rule and/or include an example specific to EMS
- Effective January 1, 2014
- Local EMS agencies making changes to scheduling, capping hours
- Combination career/volunteer likely to exceed the threshold
- Requirements of June and October, can't wait until January 1 to select how to conform
- Is there a way JNEMSLF member organizations can share intel? Can inform but not influence
- NHTSA shared the BLS definition of volunteer
- Final rule should be published by September 30
- AAA having a legal analysis performed, will share results

Burning Platforms 05/13

Medicare Extenders

- Expire 12/31/13
- Hold harmless agreement runs out at the end of June
- Already a sequester driven cut of 2% as of April 1

Burning Platforms 05/13

Action Items

- NAEMT launching survey tomorrow
- JNEMSLF members will distribute, issue two reminders, survey closes 7/1/13
- RedFlash/NCEMSI assisting with analysis
- AAA sharing legal analysis results re ACA
- NVFC sharing NaTT comments
- NHTSA will continue wo interact with the IRS
- NASEMSO will send Model Interstate Compact FAQs to JNEMSLF members

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JNEMSLF 2013 Meeting Schedule

- Week of September 8-12 2013 @ EMS World Expo
- November/December 2013? (Gregg Lord made gracious offer of meeting space)

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