

Promoting Safety in EMS

What States Can Do?

NASEMSO

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Note Well

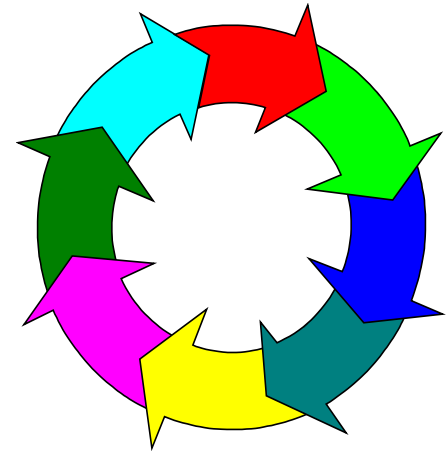
This program cannot cover all aspects or situations of risk but rather, the attendee should gain an appreciation for a risk control process.

Attendees and organizations should seek assistance as they deem appropriate.

There is no situation in emergency services that will carry as much responsibility as providing for the safety of your responders and the citizens they serve.



- Identify risks
- Evaluate and prioritize risks
- Identify risk control measures
- Implement controls
- Monitor results



- Risk Control
 - Avoidance
 - Reduction
 - Transfer
- Loss Control
- Loss Management

- Risk Avoidance
- Risk Reduction
- Risk Transfer

- Just don't do It
- Will absolutely reduce risks
- Not always practical for emergency services
- Examples of how it can work...
 - Emergency Medical Dispatch
 - Priority Fire Dispatch

- Develop steps to reduce the known risks
 - Education & Training programs targeting the risks
 - Developing (and enforcing) SOPs/SOGs for:
 - Emergency Service health and safety
 - Patient handling
 - Bloodborne pathogens
 - Driving training
 - Management liability

Measures taken to minimize the damage that has already occurred.

Loss control takes the form of financial arrangements that minimize how money is spent.

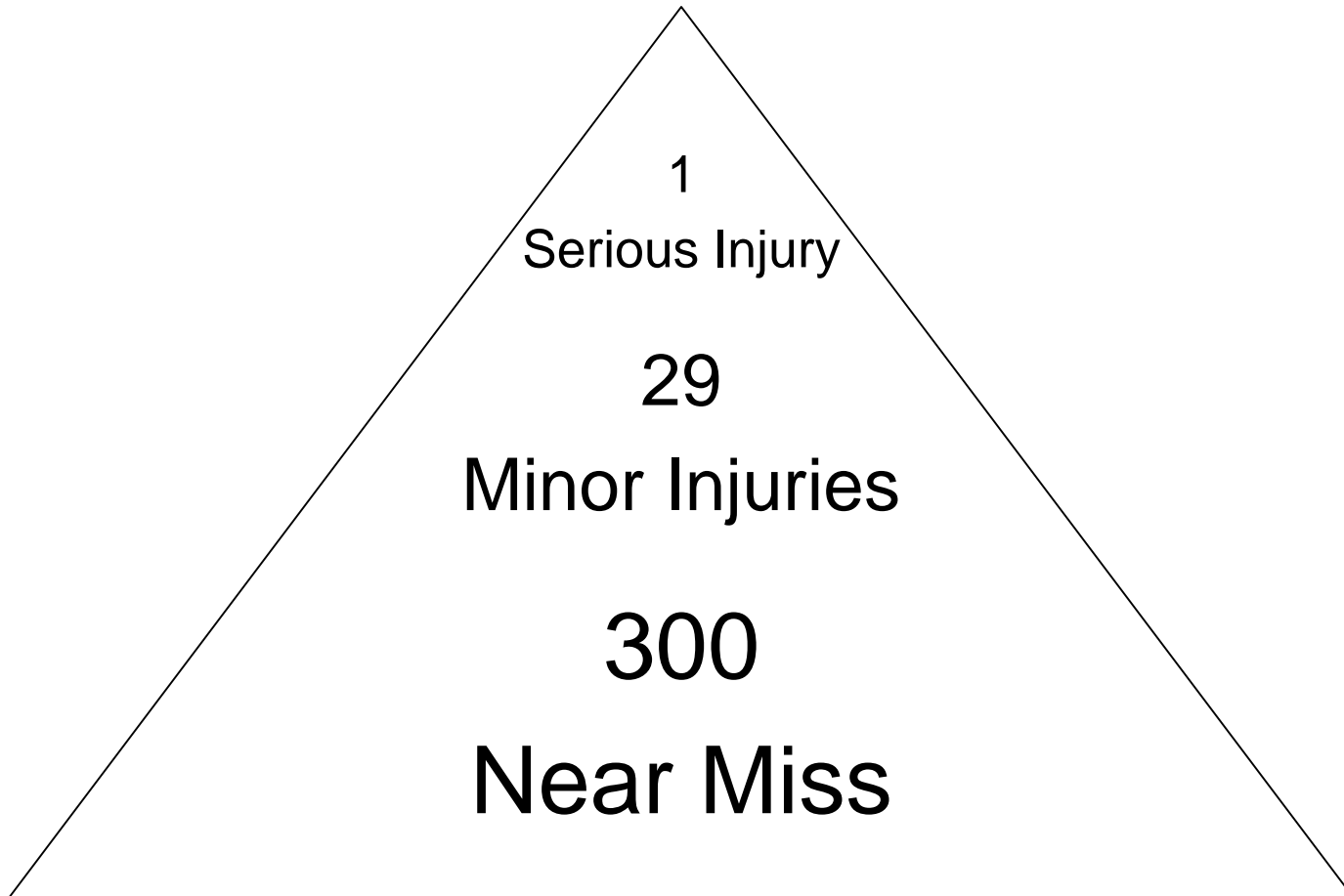
- Insurance
 - Property
 - Worker's Compensation
- Reserves
- Lines of credit
- Panel of physicians
- Return to work programs

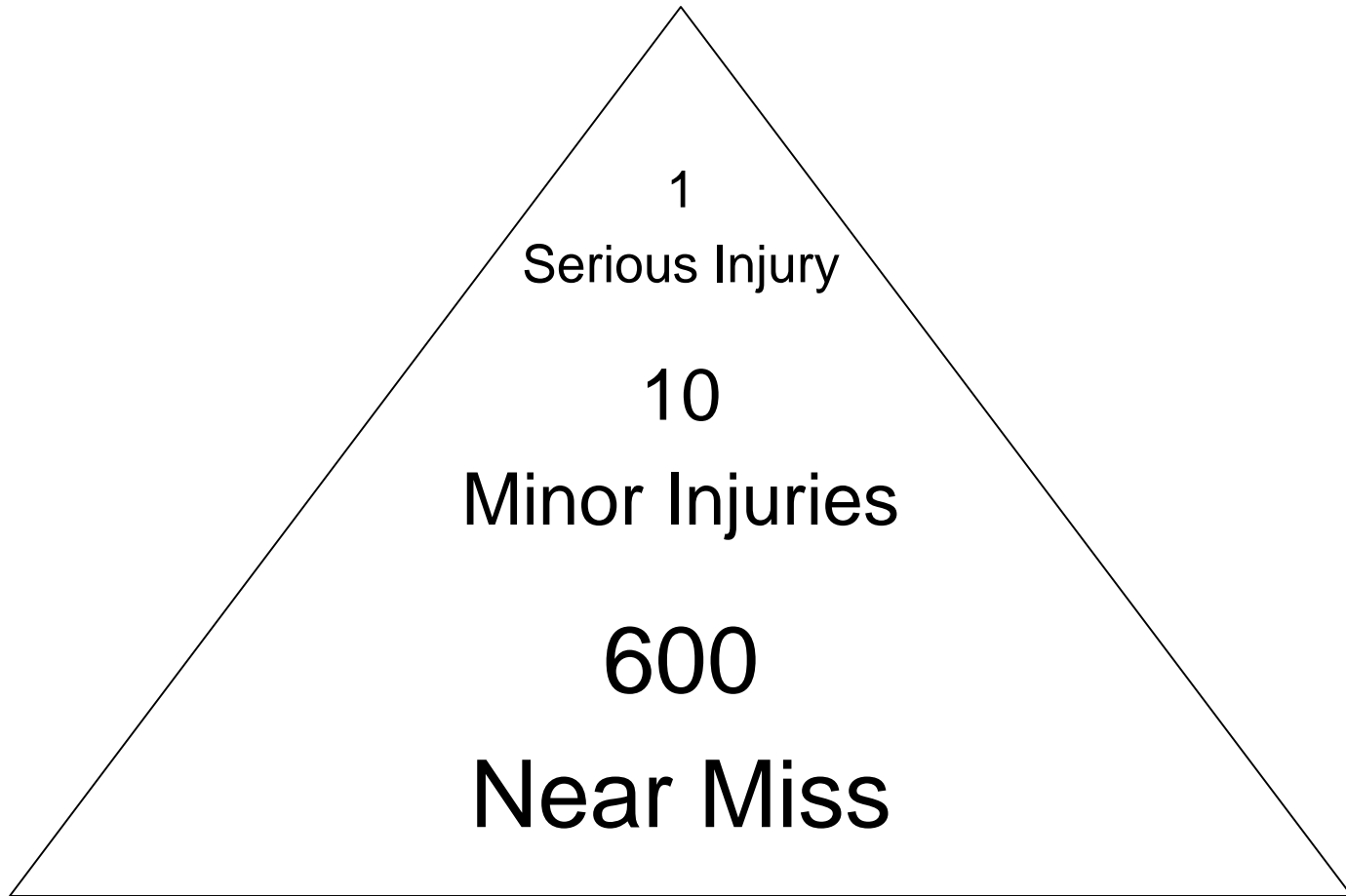


Activities that control the process of returning the organization from a loss to a **pre-existing state.**

- Incident investigation (root cause)
- Vehicle / Equipment lease agreements
- Specialists on retainer
- Public relations
 - Prior to event (everyday)
 - Process for after event

A *near miss* is an unplanned event that did not result in injury, illness, or damage, but had the potential to do so.





Address the “little things”

And

Reduce the “big things”

Examples of State Initiatives

- Previous long-standing requirement
 - EVOOC to operate an ambulance
- New EMS Act Effective April 2014
 - Requires annual continuing education for licensed ground EMS vehicle operators focused on driving related subjects

- PA Bureau of EMS identified need to assist EMS agencies in meeting the new continuing education requirement
 - 16 programs already approved for continuing education
 - Facilitator guides
 - Videos
 - PPT presentations
 - Hands-on driving programs
 - Fatigue program
 - Resources

Goal, meet the requirements of...

- Title 55, Motor and Other Vehicles
- Chapter 8
 - Operation of Vehicles Rules of the Road
- 55-8-194 - Vanessa K. Free Emergency Services Training Act of 2005

- Training in the operation of the vehicle in emergency and non-emergency situations;
- A review of all applicable laws pertaining to emergency vehicles;
- Training to respond to actions of nonemergency vehicles.

- Each emergency vehicle driver shall take not less than two (2) hours of training annually, and each emergency vehicle driver shall take and pass a comprehensive examination pertaining to subdivisions (a)(1)(A)-(a)(1)(C) every year.

- Partners
 - VA Office of EMS
 - VA Dept. of Fire Programs
 - VA State Firefighters Association
 - VA Fire Chiefs Association
 - VA IAFF

- Every EMS & Fire agency received copy
- Comprehensive training package
 - 4 programs
 - Intersection Safety
 - Rollover Prevention
 - POV Response
 - Highway Safety

- Origins = Gateway (2000)
 - EMS & Fire leadership met to identify critical issues
 - Common theme...improve safety
- 2004-2009
 - Rollover, Intersection, POV, Highway Safety, Firefighter Safety
 - Facilitator training with program kit

- Origins
 - Recognition of injuries related to lifting and moving of patients and equipment (EMS & Fire)
- Program Kit (PPT & Imbedded videos)
 - Understanding Risk
 - Patient Handling
 - Injury Drivers & Risk Reduction Techniques
 - 6 injury causes
 - 6 methods/processes to reduce risk/loss

- Vehicle Response Safety
 - Comprehensive training package
 - Intersection Safety
 - Rollover Prevention
 - POV Response
 - Highway Safety

- Other Target Areas
 - Comprehensive training package
 - Natural Disasters
 - Firefighter Safety

Summary

VFIS Mutual Aid Self-Assessment Survey

- Online “risk assessment survey”
- www.vfis.com/mutualaid

VFIS Risk Communiqués

www.vfis.com/additional-materials-downloads.htm

- EMS / Fire Operations
- Vehicle Operations
- Administrative Operations
- Employment Practices
- Miscellaneous

Remember...

The candle loses nothing
when it lights another...

THANK YOU!

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