

Regional Reps Welcome Letter / Overview of Role

Nov. 10, 2016

Dear NASEMSO Regional Reps and Alternates,

Congratulations on being selected by your peers to serve in a formal role in Association leadership!

The Regions have been a critical component of the NASEMSO architecture since the association was formed in 1980. The sentiment then, as it is now, is the importance of not only keeping states up to date with most relevant information, but also to hear from you and assure that all system demographics are considered during business proceedings and Board Decisions.

In support of this effort, please consider hosting a call in the coming weeks (prior to our Board Retreat in December) to engage State Directors from your respective regions to provide input on the structure of NASEMSO. As we will evaluate the goals of our missions, direction and various councils/committees during the Retreat, consider (as a region) the following:

- Is NASEMSO currently structured to support EMS State Office of the Future?
- Are there needs or expectations that need to be addressed?
- Where is the best direction for NASEMSO to move toward over the next year (s)?

Equally important, experience over time has shown that routine communications among states in a region contributed significantly to State EMS Directors' effectiveness both individually and collectively through the sharing of information about emerging trends, innovative solutions, and overall esprit de corps! Regular conference calls have become a mainstay of building successful, supportive regional relationships. These periodic breaks in routine State EMS business provide an opportunity for venting about common roadblocks, recognizing (and sharing) state accomplishments, gathering intel on upcoming board decisions and interacting about relevant, breaking EMS news.

Each region, in accordance with the NASEMSO Bylaws, is required to meet four times each year, with at least one occurring in person. The current NASEMSO leadership is in support of migrating our "big" annual meeting (typically held in October) to the spring, allowing regions to host face to face meetings each fall. To transition toward this effort, the October 2017 meeting in Oklahoma City will include a 1.5-day meeting for all regions.

Meanwhile, there is something I need to do for you. My bylaws-driven duty as NASEMSO Secretary is, among other tasks, to prepare suggested agenda items on a quarterly basis for your consideration, though I may do this more often in response to new projects. Attached you find the first template for your review.

As you settle in your role as Regional Reps, I hope to help you with some lessons learned as well as guide you toward some resources to help kick start your calls.

In the former Southcentral (now South) region, we held, and continue to hold, calls on a monthly basis lasting anywhere from 30 mins to an hour. As anticipated, not everyone can make every call. To help compensate for this, a quick set of notes are taken during the call by the Rep and are sent out to everyone immediately after the call. We discovered that not only did it keep everyone in the loop, but it maintained engagement of our states!

Secondly, I encourage you to send a quick poll to your region members offering three standing days/times of the month to rule out standing conflicts. NASEMSO staff have created listserves for your convenience. (See below.) Another gem provided by our association is a NASEMSO GoTo Meeting account (with connection options for audio and visual!). Using GoTo versus your own state system assures continuity in the event you personally have to miss a meeting.

BONUS: Dia Gainor is committed to attending every meeting possible. :)

Please notify me when you have selected your teleconference recurrence (a current schedule can be found [here](#)) so I can provide an updated information to NASEMSO Staff and help you with any logistical needs you may have. Additionally, if at **any** time you find that NASEMSO staff or I can assist you in any way moving forward, please do not hesitate to contact me (information below) or Dia at dia@nasemso.org.

Thank you in advance for assuming this crucial leadership role and I sincerely look forward to working with each of you as a fellow informed Board member!

Stay safe!

East Region - eastregion@lists.nasemso.org

South Region - southregion@lists.nasemso.org

Great Lakes Region - greatlakesregion@lists.nasemso.org

Western Plains Region - westernplainsregion@lists.nasemso.org

West Region - westregion@lists.nasemso.org

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