



National EMS  
**SAFETY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES/Roll Call**

**National EMS Safety Council Conference Call  
Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 11:00 am CST**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://acep.zoom.us/j/98546828855?pwd=NGJnK0ZYaThKSjhXNm4xeTk0cGRIUT09>

**Call-in #** +16699006833,,98546828855# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,98546828855# US (Houston)

**Meeting ID:** 985 4682 8855 / Passcode: 014225

**In attendance:**

Eileen Frazier (CAMTS), Dr. Joseph Grover (NAEMSP), Kathy Robinson (NASEMSO), Shirley Terry (NEMSMA), Charlene Cobb (NAEMT), Pamela Lane (NAEMT), Melissa Trumbull (NAEMT), Josh Tilton (NREMT), Pat Elmes (ACEP), Deanna Harper (ACEP), Rick Murray (ACEP)

**Agenda**

1. Opening and welcome
2. Updates from members – each member will share pertinent safety related activities during COVID pandemic
3. Goals and objectives going forward
4. Future meeting schedule
5. Other new business
6. Adjourn

**OPENING AND WELCOME**

Roll taken and all were welcomed to the post COVID first meeting for 2021.

**MEMBER UPDATES**

**NAEMT—Charlene Cobb**

- No longer on the Workforce Committee, just on NEMSSC
- Presently working on a mass vaccination site, vaccinating 2,000 people a day and in total there are 6-sites.
- Discussed seeing a significant loss of their workforce
- Several employee deaths due to COVID-19.
- There is about 40% of employees that still have not received the vaccine.

### **NEMSMA—Shirley Terry**

- Colorado COVID numbers have been drastically dropping and only have 380 hospitalizations.
- Virtual conference for the National Safety Summit, March 31 through April 2, 2021.

### **CAMTS—Eileen Frazier**

- Working on site surveys stalled due to COVID, had to adapt changing to virtual surveys. Recently started on site surveys again since most surveyors are in the medical field and have been vaccinated.
- Two deaths from COVID in the Air Medical side.
- 6-month project of standards for Mobile Integrated Health.

### **NREMT—Josh Tilton**

- NREMT is still working remotely.
- Remote proctored exams for the EMT and AEMT. Paramedic exams on the list of essential exams.

### **NASEMSO—Kathy Robinson**

- Fatigue project ends at the end of 2021, with the exciting experimental study collectively having 36 agencies and 679 individuals participating geographically across the United States.
- Currently working on a scheduling tool that will not be available until end of year or early 2022. just putting in your schedule online tool indicating a green, yellow or red light prediction of your level of fatigue.

### **NAEMSP—Dr. Joseph Grover**

- Chair of quality and safety committee- Held last conference in January 2021 as virtual and held the yearlong quality and safety pre-con as well.
- Discussed branching out to regional pre-conferences that offer the whole annual conference virtually.
- Plan to bring concepts along on a more national level of a performance improvement. Includes discussions with NEMSQ.
- Discussion of vaccination rates of providers.

### **NAEMT—Pamela Lane**

- Discussed EMS on the Hill Day to advocate for additional relief for EMS agencies and practitioners and advocated on the vaccination issues.
- Discussed legislative initiatives including the ability to bill for services of treatment in place when someone calls 911 and they treated on scene but did not transport to the hospital. This Bill was introduced and was included in the COVID relief 1.9 trillion.
- Advocating for universal support across the EMS board is the Medicare extenders, which will be up in 2022. They had hoped for the CMS surveys and data analysis to be completed, but with COVID it was delayed. They have asked for a 5-year extension which should allow time for CMS to have completed the surveying and the analysis.
- EMS Counts Bill. The Department of Labor does not count any Firefighters, EMTs or Paramedics in the US workforce. We know by the state licenses that there are over a billion which is definitely a problem that needs to be addressed.
- Siren appropriation for rural public and nonprofit EMS agencies at 5.5 million and in year 2022, they will be asking for another 20 million.
- Discussed the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the NAEMT Safety Course.
- Dr. Douglas Kupas will be serving as the NAEMT Medical Director, and the ACEP representative for this Committee.
- Announced a mental health resiliency course. Peer-to-peer basis working to build and develop their resilience and knowledge.

### **ACEP—Rick Murray**

- New ACEP Representative for this group will be Dr. Douglas Kupas filling the open spot that Dr. Craig Manifold had held.
- ACEP has had its office closed and all staff has been working from home since March 2020.

-ACEP has produced an electronic ACEP COVID-19 Field Guide for EDs:

<https://www.acep.org/corona/covid-19-field-guide/the-current-covid-19-crisis/introduction/>

-Discussed COVID-19 related Emergency Physician deaths.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES GOING FORWARD**

-Discussed networking and sharing of resources to avoid not having to reinvent the wheel.

-Discussed this committee referring to providers as EMS and Fire as practitioners, even possibly using the term Pre-hospital care provider.

**Projects/Activities:** Develop two statements for the committee to work on this year.

1. Statement to protect patients and practitioner's safety with minimal standards of competency level.
2. Statement for the advocating to have all providers vaccinated.

### **Tools/organizations to review are:**

CAHEP accredited Paramedic program.

NEMSQA national safety measures and process

CoAEMSP

Mike Segal's Insurance Company might define standards for EMS safety.

Air safety standards.

Provide policies that frame safety in initial education and what's included on the NRAEMT certification test.

**First steps:** Two groups have been setup to develop and share the two new statements to share with all.

-Group One: Rick, Pam, Eileen and Charlene to develop a statement for safety standards.

-Group Two: Dr. Grover to develop a statement for advocating to get more vaccinated first responders.

### **Members to be reapproached and invited to the committee:**

Center for Patient Safety

NAEMSE

AAA

AAMS

COT

NHTSA

## **FUTURE CASLL/MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

Call on May 12, 2021, 11am-12pm CST

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 am, CST