

Texas EMS Trauma News

Summer 2015 Vol. 2 No. 3

“There’s no harm in hoping for the best as long as you’re prepared for the worst.” — Stephen King

May 2015 brought a variety of challenges to Texas.

Photos of flooding rescues and the shootout in Waco.

Drowning

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- About 10 people die every day from unintentional drowning
- Two out of these ten are aged 14 years or younger
- Drowning is currently the fifth leading cause of unintentional injury death in the USA
- Children between the ages of 1-4 have the highest risk of drowning
- Most drownings occur in home swimming pools

More information may be found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Water-Safety/waterinjuries-factsheet.html>.

According to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

- Sixteen children drowned in Texas in 2015
- May was the most active month in Texas for drownings in 2015, with 5 reported incidents
- Drownings were reported in Bastrop, Brazoria, Collin, Dallas, Denton, DeWitt, Freestone, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Hood, Rains, Tarrant, and Williamson counties in 2015

More information regarding Texas drowning statistics may be found here: https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Watch_Kids_Around_Water/drownings.asp.

EMS Local Projects Grants Update

FY15

112 applications were received from Procurement and Contracting Services (PCS). We recommended \$1.3 million in LPG awards. Of the 112 applications, 62 received tentative awards and the announcement was posted on the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) Board. DSHS and HHSC conducted negotiations with several listed tentative awardees after the tentative list was posted. HHSC is currently working on emailing FY 15 EMS/LPG contracts with start dates of 5/1/2015 and 5/15/2015. The end date for these contracts will be 8/31/2015.

Please contact Rosalyn Lazare-Payne at HHSC PCS at (512) 776-2684 or Rosalyn.lazare-payne@hhsc.state.tx.us with questions regarding the FY15 EMS/LPG Program.

FY16

The FY16 Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted on the ESBD/HHSC website on April 1, 2015 and closed May 21, 2015. Questions and answers segment closed on 5/12/2015 and a listing of the questions and answers are to be posted on 5/13/2015 on the ESBD/HHSC website.

Please contact the Procurement Project Manager at HHSC for questions regarding the FY 16 EMS/LPG Program: Mahsa Azadi at mahsa.azadi@hhsc.state.tx.us or (512) 206-4785. We expect the timeline for the FY16 funding cycle to be more in line with our normal LPG process, which will result with contracts starting in October 2015.

The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government. . . . Thomas Jefferson

84R Legislative Session Summary

HB2020: This bill would allow certified Paramedics and License Paramedic to provide health care services to include advance life support in an emergency or urgent care clinical setting, hospital emergency room/department or free standing emergency medical care facility.

SB 1899: Supports HB 2020 but added additional requirements for EMS Providers and personnel.

- Jurisprudence exam for providers and/or personnel
- Physical location of an EMS provider
- Provide proof of owner /lease of EMS equipment
- Documentation that only one EMS provider at one location
- Demonstrate proof of compliance with Texas laws/rules

SB 1574: This bill is relating to emergency response employees or volunteers and others exposed or potentially exposed to certain diseases or parasites. This bill requires the designation of a “designated infection control officer” by each emergency responder organization based on standards set by rule.

HB 2498: This bill is related to a compact with other states regarding the licensure of emergency medical services (EMS) personnel and the authority of those personnel to perform job duties in Texas and other states. This is a national compact called Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (REPLICA). The compact is intended to facilitate the day to day movement of EMS personnel across state boundaries in the performance of their EMS duties.

Nursing facilities now required to inform EMS of AED installation

Effective April 29, 2015: The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) has adopted Texas Administrative Code §19.1935 concerning automated external defibrillators. The new section of Chapter 19, Nursing Facility Requirements for Licensure and Medicaid Certification, requires nursing facilities to have an automated external defibrillator (AED) available for use at the facility and contains training, use and notification requirements that are consistent with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 779 relating to AEDs.

Chapter 19 requires nursing facilities to notify the local emergency medical services provider within 24 hours after acquiring an automated external defibrillator of:

- the existence of the automated external defibrillator;
- the location of the automated external defibrillator in the facility; and
- the type of automated external defibrillator.

Facilities must also notify local emergency medical services provider by calling 9-1-1, per standard CPR procedures, while using an automated external defibrillator on a resident. Read more on [Rule §19.1935](#) of the Texas Administrative Code.

For more information:

www.heart.org/HEARTORG/CPRAndECC/CorporateTraining/AEDResources/AED-Programs-Q-A_UCM_323111_Article.jsp
www.ernetwork.com/info/faqs.htm

Texas EMS & Trauma Registry would like to announce that starting January 1, 2016, the EMS & Trauma Registries will collect NEMSIS V3.3.4 data and will no longer accept legacy data.

For a detailed overview of entering data into the Texas EMS & Trauma Registries for EMS please register for “EMS Web-Data Entry Training” on Jun 24, 2015, 10:00 AM CDT at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5709903888241794050>.

NEMSIS TAC Version Timeline

2014

March Release v3.3.4

2015

March Release v3.4.0

April Compliance Testing Opens v3.4.0

June Accept v3.4.0 data

2017

October 1, 2017 Last Date for v3.3.4 Compliance Testing and Certification
December 31, 2017 Last Date to Submit v3.3.4 Data

Kathy Perkins receives a lifetime achievement award from the Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum (TTCF)

The TTCF Lifetime Achievement Award is given to honor an individual who has made significant fundamental contributions to trauma care. These contributions whether they have been in injury prevention, research, leadership or mentorship, must have had a lasting impact on the trauma field and must have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to injury prevention and trauma care.

EMS Obituaries

Kristin McLain, 46 of Austin, died April 27, 2015, while assisting in the rescue of a woman who had fallen in the Barton Creek Greenbelt in Austin Texas. Kristin gave her life in performing EMS care as she dedicated her life to helping others.

Kristin McLain worked for STAR Flight for seven years as a registered nurse licensed paramedic in the aerial emergency medical service. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kristin's family and friends.

Ruben Lopez, MD passed away June 5, 2015 after a long battle with cancer. Dr. Lopez served as the Trauma Medical Director at Valley Baptist Medical Center and taught at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and the Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC) in Harlingen. He previously served on the Trauma Committee of the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council. Dr. Lopez was a dedicated surgeon, teacher and leader focused on improving the care of injured patients throughout Texas and the Rio Grande Valley.

External links to other sites are intended to be informational and do not have the endorsement of the Texas Department of State Health Services. These sites may also not be accessible to persons with disabilities.

NEWS FROM THE WEB

FEATURED ARTICLES

The Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) has issued an alert warning that law enforcement personnel and public officials may be at an increased risk of cyber attacks. Doxing—the act of gathering and publishing individuals' personal information without permission—has been observed. Hacking collectives may exploit publicly available information identifying officers or officials, their employers, and their families. These target groups should protect their online presence and exposure.

Please review the IC3 Alert www.ic3.gov/media/2015/150421.aspx for details and refer to US-CERT Tip ST06-003 (<https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST06-003>) for information on staying safe on social network sites.

Guidelines for the use and availability of helicopter emergency medical transport from the US Department of Transportation; www.dot.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Guidelines%20for%20the%20Use%20and%20Availability%20of%20Helicopter%20Emergency%20Medical%20Transport%20%28HEMS%29%20OCR.pdf

EMS for children crew of the year winner:

www.khou.com/story/news/local/2015/05/22/four-year-old-stabbing-victim-thanks-those-who-saved-him/27810471/

Additional Reading

Homes for Texas Heroes Home Loan Program: www.tsahc.org/homeownership/loans-down-payment-assistance

The program, spearheaded by the Texas legislature, provides a 30-year fixed rate home loan to Texas EMS personnel, firefighters, peace officers and others. In addition, this program offers down payment and closing cost assistance of up to 5% of the mortgage loan amount, in the form of a grant.

Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons: <http://bulletin.facs.org/>

The Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons is published monthly by the American College of Surgeons.

Washington Update: <http://www.nasemso.org/NewsAndPublications/TheWashingtonUpdate/>

The Washington Update is produced bi-monthly by the National Association of State EMS Officials in cooperation with NHTSA OEMS, with funds also provided by HHS EMSC.

EMSC Program News: <http://www.childrensnational.org/emsc/currentnews/programnews/>
Ensuring that all children receive appropriate care in a health care emergency.

NACo County News: <http://www.naco.org/newsroom/countynews/Current%20Issue/1-13-14/Pages/default.aspx>
The voice of American counties.

The Pony Express: <https://www.bcm.edu/departments/pediatrics/texasemsc/?pmid=15790>
Official Newsletter of the EMSC State Partnership, Texas.

Integrated Healthcare Delivery: <http://ihdelivery.com/>
Integrated Healthcare Delivery focuses on improving the patient experience of care through inter-professional collaborations.