

## **Notice Related to the Virginia EMS Officer I Program**

In March, OEMS conducted an evaluation of the status of the four (4) training modules that make up the on-line component of the EMS Officer I training program. This evaluation was based on scheduling of two pilot courses, which were to be held late March in Richmond, and Loudoun County to ensure the program was ready for use. At the time, there was a plan in place to post the first module online, and the subsequent modules in the weeks to follow during the pilot courses as they came available.

Concurrently, OEMS received comments from committees of the EMS Advisory Board, as well as OEMS staff, about the work that needed to be completed on the modules before the process of adding audio to the on-line content could continue. Additionally, the amount of time it will take our VDH Information Technology Specialists to load the program onto TRAINVa in order for the students to be able to view the on-line educational content and supporting documentation will take longer than anticipated.

The process of building the curriculum for this particular educational training program has taken years to complete, with numerous starts and stops on this project. The focus of OEMS is on what it takes to put this program in a format that will be educational and informative, reflect positively on all who have worked on this project, and be something that that can sustain itself once the (pilot) programs are launched, conducted and evaluated.

The renewed enthusiasm, effort, and dedication to get this program ready for pilot has been wonderful, but based on resources available to OEMS, it simply became unrealistic to begin the pilot programs in the timeframe that was previously announced. Preparing EMS Officer I for use is covering new ground in some cases, and the time it will take to complete the remaining steps in this project is simply taking longer than anticipated.

In conclusion, OEMS continues to work with the same urgency to complete this training program and once all course content is on-line and ready to go, OEMS will work with interested parties to set a date to conduct these two pilot programs.