

# Virginia's State EMS Plan

## Reviewing the Plan

### What is the State EMS Plan?

- Three year strategic and operational plan
- Designed to utilize core strategies and strategic initiatives to outline and address the needs of the EMS System over a three year span.
- Goal is to make improvements to EMS System in Virginia, and not necessarily delivery of EMS care.
- Build on the past efforts made in previous versions of State EMS Plan.

### Why was the State EMS Plan created?

- §32.1-111.3 of the Code of Virginia requires the development of a comprehensive, coordinated, statewide emergency medical services plan by the Virginia Department of Health's Office of EMS (OEMS).
- Support delivery of EMS care in Virginia
- Support existing and new initiatives designed to improve all aspects of the EMS system in Virginia.

### How was the Plan created?

- In the fall of 2009, the Office of EMS, in conjunction with the EMS Advisory Board and it's 13 subcommittees, reviewed the existing plan to determine the needs of the EMS system.
  - Plan divided into four core strategies:
  - Develop Partnerships
  - Create Tools and Resources
  - Develop Infrastructure
  - Assure Quality and Evaluation

### Plan Creation – 2009

- OEMS staff gathered and evaluated information submitted by subcommittees, and integrated that information into the draft plan.
- Plan presented to EMS Advisory Board in May of 2010, approved in August of 2010.
- Plan posted to OEMS website for public comment from June 1 to July 16, 2010.
- Plan presented to State Board of Health for approval in October 2010, approved in March 2011.

### Highlights of State EMS Plan

- Use of technology and social media to provide accurate and timely information.
- Creation of EMS Agency and Provider Portal
- Creation, maintenance, and expansion of Virginia Pre-hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB)
- Transition to new EMS education standards.

### Why is a revision to the State EMS Plan necessary?

- Required by the Code of Virginia to be revised triennially.
- Current plan is nearly three years old.
- Many of the strategic initiatives and action steps have been met, or made significant progress.
- EMS is dynamic field, and plan must also remain dynamic to address the needs of changing system.

### What happens to the current plan?

- Unfinished initiatives carry over to new version of plan.
- Summary information provided as requested
- Lessons learned help shape the new version of plan.

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### How will the new plan be created?

- OEMS staff holding planning retreat in September 2012.
- Input will be gathered from EMS Advisory Board subcommittees November 2012-February 2013.
- Revised plan presented to EMS Advisory Board for review in May 2013.
- Public comment period – June 1 – July 15, 2013
- Vote for approval by EMS Advisory Board – August 2013.
- Presented to State Board of Health for approval – October 2013.

For more information:

<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/OEMS/EMSPan/index.htm>