

OEMS QUARTERLY REPORTS

Friday, November 15,
2024, State EMS
Advisory Board
Meeting

Table of Contents

ANNOUNCEMENT 2

- Provider Health and Safety Committee Update 2
 - EMS Safety Officer Position Paper and Motion 2

DEPUTY DIRECTOR TRAUMA AND ADMINISTRATION 3

- Business Operations 3
- Division of EMS System Funding 5
- Policy and Planning 8
- Division of Trauma and Critical Care 11
- Epidemiology - DATAWISE Team 13

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION 14

- Accreditation, Certification & Education (ACE) Division 14
- Regulation & Compliance Enforcement Division 16

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OPERATIONS 17

- Division of Emergency Operations 17
- Division of Community Health and Technical Resources (CHaTR) 19
- Blue Ridge EMS Council (BREMS) 22
- Central Shenandoah EMS Council 25
- Rappahannock EMS Council 28
- Southwest Virginia EMS Council 30

ANNOUNCEMENT

Provider Health and Safety Committee Update

- **EMS Safety Officer Position Paper and Motion**
 - **Details:** At the May 2024 meeting of the Provider Health & Safety Committee, a motion was made to endorse the position paper developed by the committee. This motion was subsequently passed to present the paper, which was shared at the August 2024 EMS Advisory Board meeting for further consideration and support.
 - **Purpose:** This position paper advocates for the establishment of an EMS Safety Officer role to foster a culture of safety within OEMS agencies, addressing the comprehensive health and safety needs of providers. The Provider Health and Safety Committee believes this position is essential for cultivating safe practices and enhancing overall safety within the EMS community.
 - **EMS Plan Reference:** The interim strategic plan underscores a commitment to enhancing public health functions within Virginia's emergency care system. The latest EMS plan outlines initiatives supporting EMS operations (Strategic Initiative 4.3). Specifically, Initiative 4.3.2 focuses on developing, implementing, and promoting programs that prioritize the safety, health, and wellness of first responders.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR TRAUMA AND ADMINISTRATION

Business Operations

Committees and Meetings

- NA

Outreach and Education

- NA

Operational Activities

Process: Staff is actively seeking opportunities to enhance invoice coding and provide detailed payment descriptions in F&A.

Trauma Center Fund: In compliance with § 18.2-270.01(B), the first biannual payment from the Trauma Fund has been issued to eligible trauma centers.

- **Status:** Total funds issued; **\$4,954,846.30**.

Return to Locality (RTL) program: In compliance with § 46.2-694(A)(13)(e), Twenty-six percent shall be returned by the Comptroller to the locality wherein such vehicle is registered.

- **Status:** For the Q1 FY25 report, a total of **\$2,245,874.80** was disbursed to 34 localities under the RTL program.

Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) - In compliance with § 46.2-694(A)(13)(a), Two percent shall be distributed to the State Department of Health to provide funding to the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads.

- **Status:** The quarterly fund distribution to the VAVRS was released in October 2024. For the Q1 FY25 report, VAVRS received a total of **\$156,338.88**, with monthly payments of **\$46,372.68** in July, **\$64,874.46** in August, and **\$45,091.74** in September.

Regional Council: - In compliance with § 46.2-694(A)(13b) the Quarter 1 fund distribution to the Regional Councils were released on time in September 2024.

- **Status:** For the Q4 FY25 report, council payments included **\$882,209.70** disbursed in August. For Q1 FY25 - **\$192,088.32** paid in September. Four councils having submitted their reports as of October 31, 2024.

Travel: OEMS started processing all travel reimbursements submission through a new Travel Intake Management System (TRiMS).

Transportation: The Fleet Manager completed the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and implemented the vehicle reservation calendar. This plan includes tighter security controls and aims to improve the process for utilizing office vehicles for travel.

Procurements and Fleet: Fleet Manager Dave Thomas, in conjunction with Procurement's Jackie Hunter, successfully listed and sold two ambulances on GovDeals.

Items of High Interest

NA

Division of EMS System Funding

Committees and Meetings

Financial Assistance and Review Committee

- August 1, 2024 – regular business of committee.

NHTSA Post Crash Care Summit(virtual)

- August 6, 2024 – presentations and discussion of collaboration of data and research from various agencies both federal and state to reduce preventable traffic deaths.

VCU's Center for Trauma and Critical Care Education and Violence and Injury Prevention Program

- August 19, 2024 – quarterly meeting to discuss general activity as it relates to the VCU grant for outreach. Mr. Tim Perkins and Mr. Michael Berg from OEMS are now members of the advisory council for the VCU program.

Virginia Regional Medication Kit Transition Workgroup

- August 12, 2024, September 9, 2024 – participated as part of a workgroup of the larger group. Reviewing additional clarification regarding DEA interpretations and CSR/DEA permitting.

NOIRA Public Safety Council (NIOSH)

- September 17, 2024 – voting member, met virtually – topics revolved around need for PPE sizing and application for female firefighters.

NASEMSO South Region

- September 19, 2024 – monthly meeting

Transportation Committee

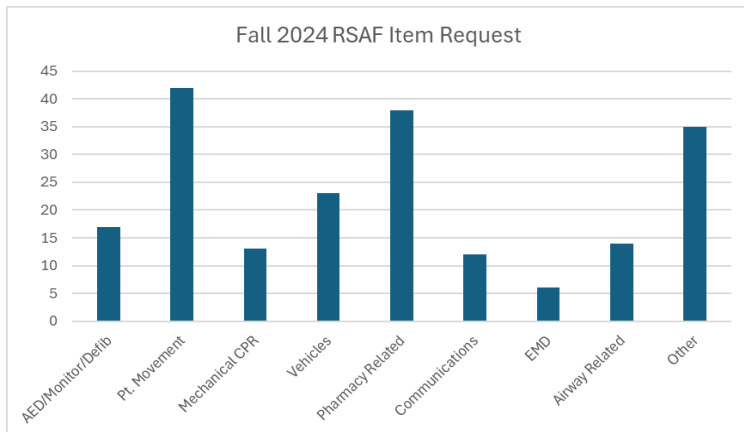
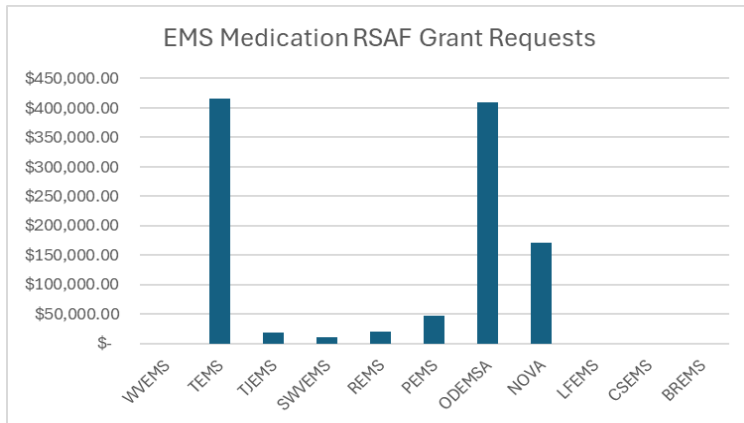
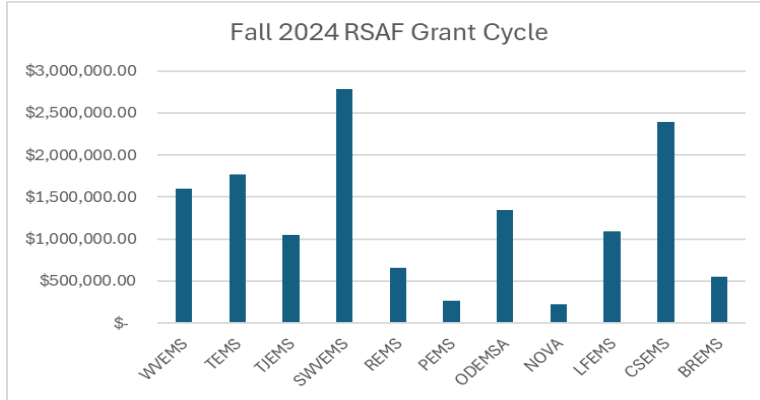
- October 21, 2024 - attended per committee invitation discussion on ambulance and other emergency vehicles, RSAF discussions.

Items of High Interest

Fall 2024 Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grant: The Fall 2024 Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grant cycle opened on August 1, 2024, and closed September 16, 2024. The award date for this grant cycle will be January 1, 2025. A total of 84 grants were submitted, 74 – EMS agencies and 10 non-EMS agencies for a total of \$13,742,574.47.

Important Dates

- **Technical Review**, September 19, 2024, closes October 22, 2024
- **FARC Grading** starts October 23, 2024, ends December 2, 2024
- **Ranking and Grading**, December 5, 2024
- **Award**, January 1, 2025



KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER

EMS Special Initiative Award – Patient Care Reporting

- Seeking EMS Advisory Board approval for non-profit EMS agencies to submit for funding to offset cost for first year of Patient Care Reporting previously supported by OEMS (November 15, 2024).

Policy and Planning

Committees and Meetings

- NA

Outreach and Education

- NA

Operational Activities

- **Guidance Documents:** 28 guidance documents listed under the OEMS have been deleted in accordance with the Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) agreement. It was determined that these documents do not meet the statutory definition of a guidance document, leading to their removal from the records.

Office	Guidance Doc ID	Guidance Doc Title
OEMS	<u>EMS-1015</u>	<u>EMS Surge Planning Template</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3012</u>	<u>EVOC Equivalents</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3013</u>	<u>Alternative Site Application for EMS Programs in Virginia</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3019</u>	<u>CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3040A</u>	<u>ALS Coordinator Application</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3042F</u>	<u>BLS Student Permission Form</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-3046</u>	<u>Course Roster</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6018F</u>	<u>EMS Ground Ambulance Checklist</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6019F</u>	<u>Non Transport EMS Vehicle Checklist</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6021F</u>	<u>Air Ambulance Checklist</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6027</u>	<u>Local Government Acknowledgement of Compliance with EMS Response Plan *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6028F</u>	<u>EMS Physician Application for Endorsement</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6036</u>	<u>Criminal History Record Verification, Challenge-Appeal Process</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-6038A</u>	<u>Criminal History Record Verification, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-7016</u>	<u>VPHIB EMS Admin Security Agreement</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-7021</u>	<u>Logon Requests – VPHIB/Hospital Hub/VSTR</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-7101F</u>	<u>Authorized DDNR Form and Instructions *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-7102</u>	<u>How to Purchase Durable Do Not Resuscitate Bracelets and Necklaces</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8001</u>	<u>RSAF Grant Program - Reimbursement Instructions *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8002</u>	<u>E-Gift Agency Super User Guide *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8004</u>	<u>E-Gift Financial Officer Guide</u>

OEMS	<u>EMS-8005</u>	<u>E-Gift Financial Officer User Guide - non-licensed agency</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8006</u>	<u>E-Gift RSAF Grant Application for EMS agency</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8009</u>	<u>E-Gift User Guider for non-EMS agency *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8010</u>	<u>E-GIFT OMD User Guide *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8011</u>	<u>E-GIFT Users Guide for Nasal Narcan *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8012</u>	<u>E-GIFT Financial Officer User Guide for Nasal Narcan *</u>
OEMS	<u>EMS-8013</u>	<u>E-GIFT OMD User Guide for Nasal Narcan *</u>

- **Internal Policy and Procedure:** A draft is currently in progress for the internal policy and procedure manual. This manual will outline the office's policies, procedures, and guidelines, serving as a resource for operational consistency and facilitating succession planning and cooperative efforts within the organization.
- **External Policy and Procedure:** See below
 1. Develop or/update the Policy and Procedure for Funding such as;
 - a. Return to Localities (in progress)
 - b. RSAF (developed)
 - c. VAVRS (in progress)
 - d. Trauma Fund (updated)
- **Conflict of Interest:** Please prepare for the annual COI filing which starts to go out in December.
- **Workgroup - [HB 1309](#)** - State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board develop guidelines and guidance for the provision of emergency treatment of fire, police, and search and rescue dogs
 - **Update - 11.11.2024** – James Reynolds, Chair of the HB1309 Treatment and Transport of Working Canines provided the following;
 - **Recent Meeting:** October 17 2024 meeting outcome below;
 - **Membership established;**
 - James Reynolds, Chair
 - Jeremy Demott, CFD
 - Kari Magner, VDH
 - Richard Gray, CFD
 - Talya George, VVMA
 - Kellie Moss, DHP
 - Ashley Camper, VDH
 - Susan Seward, VVMA
 - Dr. Christie Bowden, DVM
 - **Objective:** Develop comprehensive guidelines for the emergency treatment of fire, police, and search-and-rescue dogs injured in the line of duty, including protocols for their transportation via emergency medical services

vehicles to veterinary care facilities capable of providing necessary emergency care.

- **Next Step:** Scheduling next meeting.

Items of High Interest

NA

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

NA

Division of Trauma and Critical Care

Committees and Meetings

Emergency Response and Preparedness

- Reviewing regional annexes and pediatric resources.

Systems Improvement:

- Decisions on the data dashboard were made to improve the accuracy of data sets, focusing on location and agency representation.

Pre-Hospital

- Ongoing work on the EMS drug box exchange.

Injury, Violence, and Prevention

- Collaborating with the IVP at VDH for website updates. They are currently revisiting their committee structure to include more pediatric-focused members.

Acute Care

- The workgroup met to discuss findings on alert criteria, though it remains challenging for centers to establish unified criteria.

Post-Acute Care

- Currently on an interim break due to difficulties in consistently reaching a quorum.

Outreach and Education

- NA

Operational Activities

Trauma Fund 2023 Payout Completed

- Successful data collection, payment calculations, and invoice processing were finalized for all fully designated centers for the 2023 Trauma Fund.

First 2024 Trauma Fund Installment Processed

- The initial 2024 installment has been processed, covering data collection, payment calculations, and invoicing for fully designated centers.

New Trauma Fund Policy Published

- The updated Trauma Fund Policy is now available on the [OEMS Trauma Fund Page](#)

Enhanced Oversight with New Memo Template

- A new memo template is in use to improve oversight and leadership communication on Trauma Fund invoice calculations and payouts.

Quarterly Trauma Center Reviews Progressing

- Five trauma centers have been reviewed this quarter, with one additional review scheduled before the holidays next quarter.

New Trauma Center Application Under Review

- One center has submitted a letter of intent and application this quarter, aiming for a provisional review in Summer 2025.

Monthly TPM Group Meetings Support Performance Standards

- The TPM group meets virtually each month, with OEMS actively participating, including presentations on site visit preparations and performance improvement standards.

Items of High Interest

NA

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- The updated State Trauma Designation Manual is due to be completed and forwarded to committee consideration in early 2025.

Epidemiology - DATAWISE Team

Committees and Meetings

- **NEMSIS Bimonthly Meeting:** The Patient Care Informatics Team reviewed the NEMSIS 3.5 standard and discussed upcoming changes.
- **ServiceNow Functionality Meetings:** Participated in meetings with VDH's Office of Information Management to discuss updates to the support ticket process for OEMS.
- **Virginia Stroke Systems Taskforce Meeting (07/19/24):** The Epidemiology Team attended to discuss cerebrovascular disease in the incarcerated population, airport stroke education outreach, and taskforce workgroup reports.

Outreach and Education

- **Publication:** On July 8, 2024, the article "[The State of Emergency Medical Services Clinician Mental Health in Virginia](#)" was published in the *International Journal of Paramedicine*. This study analyzed the 2022 Virginia EMS clinician mental health survey, revealing that Virginia's EMS clinicians report more perceived poor mental health days, higher rates of suicide contemplation, and increased substance use compared to the general population.
- **VDH Overdose Surveillance Workgroup:** The Epidemiology Team attended the workgroup meeting on September 17, 2024, where the Epidemiology Program Manager provided an overview of EMS data on substance use incidents.
- **Data Quality Reports:** Monthly reports of [agency data quality](#) are published on the OEMS website. During Q3:
 - **July:** 148,976 records with a data quality score of 95.15%
 - **August:** 152,439 records with a data quality score of 95.58%
 - **September:** 146,190 records with a data quality score of 96.36%
- **New Data Visualizations:** Between July and October 2024, several new data visualizations were added to the OEMS [EMS & Trauma Data](#) website. These include a National EMS Quality Alliance (NEMSQA) quality measures dashboard and four datasets focusing on heat-related illness EMS incidents.
- **Data Requests:** To request EMS or Trauma data please email epi.oems@vdh.virginia.gov or complete the DATAWISE [Data Request Form](#).

Operational Activities

- **Patient Care Informatics Support (Q3 2024):** Handled over 2,900 portal support tickets, 650 voicemails, and 450 EMS/trauma repository emails.
- **Epidemiology Data Requests (July - October 15):** Responded to 30 requests for EMS and trauma data.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION

Accreditation, Certification & Education (ACE) Division

Committees and Meetings

- **Training and Certification Committee (TCC):** The Training and Certification Committee meeting was held on October 2, 2024, at the Old Dominion EMS Alliance (ODEMSA) in Henrico, VA.
 - **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE**
 - October 2, 2024 – *“A motion was made and properly seconded to support the Office of EMS with a special initiative grant funding through the RSAF process to allow EMS agencies to apply for and procure their own ePCR platform, as long as it is forward facing with the state procured repository for reporting and objectivity,”*
- **Medical Direction Committee (MDC):** The Medical Direction Committee meeting was held on October 3, 2024, at ODEMSA in Henrico, VA. There are no action items.

Outreach and Education

The ACE Division conducted several educational seminars during the quarter:

- **Richmond EC Update:** An Education Coordinator (EC) update was held in Richmond.
- **Virginia Beach EC Updates:**
 - One session with 39 ECs, 3 ALS Coordinators, and 1 Emergency Operations Instructor in attendance.
 - Another session with 37 ECs in attendance.
- **Virginia Beach EC Institute:** Conducted an EC Institute where 30 new ECs completed certification.

Operational Activities

During Q3 2024, the ACE Division:

- **Help Desk Support:** Assisted with inquiries on portal access and EMS certification/recertification.
- **Application Processing:** Handled 297 applications for reciprocity, legal recognition, and challenges.
- **EMS Provider Certification:** Certified and recertified 3,632 EMS providers.
- **Education Coordinator Approvals:** Received and approved 51 new Education Coordinator applications.

Items of High Interest

- **National Involvement:** The ACE Division Director serves on the National Registry EMS Continued Competency Regulatory and Educator workgroups.
- **NASEMSO EMS Education Council Representation:** Represents Virginia in bimonthly meetings, working on projects to evaluate and update the 2002 Educator Standards.

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- **Training and Certification Committee Meeting:** January 8, 2025
- **Medical Direction Committee Meeting:** January 9, 2025

Regulation & Compliance Enforcement Division

Committees and Meetings

Quarterly Meetings:

- Medical Direction Committee
- Rules & Regulations Committee
- Legislative & Planning Committee
- State EMS Advisory Board
- Virginia POST/POLST Collaborative Executive Committee

Monthly - Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup

August 2024:

- Division Staff Meeting at BREMS Council Office
- R&CE Staff Compliance Case Review Meeting

Outreach and Education

- **August 2024:** ODEMSA Council OMD workshop at ODEMSA Council Office
- **September 2024:** DDNR Update Presentation to Forest View Rescue Squad

Operational Activities

- **Fingerprint Background Checks processed:** Processed 3,034 fingerprint checks, 424 RAP reviews, 13 ineligibles
- **Inspections:** 51 agencies, 3 new agencies, 553 vehicles, 38 spot inspections, 122 new apparatus
- **Compliance Cases:** 87 opened, 49 closed
- **Enforcement Actions:** 3 warnings, 1 correction order, 0 citations, 25 suspensions
- **Variances:** 19 requested (12 approved, 7 denied)
- **Exemptions:** 2 requested (pending review)
- **Accommodation Requested:** 0 requested
- **Drug Diversions Reported:** 3
- **Endorsed EMS Physicians:** 227 endorsed, 23 re-endorsed, 6 denied, 1 expired

Items of High Interest

Recruitment is in process for a Program Representative position covering the NOVA region.

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

NA

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

Division of Emergency Operations

Committees and Meetings

- **Weekly:** Planning for the 2025 VDH Preparedness Summit
- **Monthly:** Meetings with the Central Virginia Healthcare Coalition, Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (EMACV), and FEMA Region 3 Special Pathogens Treatment Center Workgroup
- **Ongoing:** Planning a full-scale exercise with Liberty University, Blue Ridge EMS Council, and regional partners, building on the December 2023 tabletop exercise
- **August 7, 2024:** Attended the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop for Virginia Public Health and Healthcare Emergency Management Programs
- **September 19, 2024:** Participated in the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) meeting

Outreach and Education

Training sessions:

- *“Can’t We All Just Get Along?” and “Failing to Plan is Planning to Fail!”*
 - **August 12 & 14:** Orange County
 - **September 28:** Lunenburg County (MCI for PSAPs only)
 - **September 30:** Martinsville-Henry (*Can’t We All Just Get Along? only*)

Infographics National Preparedness Month: Developed five infographics for National Preparedness Month (September).

Mass Casualty Incident Management Train-the-Trainer: Roanoke, September 26, 2024

Operational Activities

- **VEOC Emergency Support Function #8:** Staffed for Hurricane Helene response.
- **July 23, 2024:** Participated in the Regional Family Assistance Center Workshop.
- **August 7, 2024:** Attended the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop.
- **August 17, 2024:** Supported EMACV CERT regional exercise in Chesterfield.
- **September 4-6, 2024:** Attended the DCJS First Responder Wellness Conference in Norfolk.
- **2025 COOP Review:** Reviewed OEMS Continuity of Operations Plan for the 2025 update.

Items of High Interest

NA

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- **VEOC Recovery Support:** Ongoing staffing for Hurricane Helene recovery efforts.

- **VDEM THIRA/SPR Meeting:** October 9, 2024.
- **2024 PEMS EMS Symposium:** Held at Rappahannock Community College, November 8-10, 2024.
- **MCI Training and Regional Exercise:** Conducted in Lunenburg on October 19, 2024.
- **9-1-1 Services Board Meeting:** Collaborated with Virginia Department of Education on high school telecommunicator programs.
- **Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Meeting:** Attended the 2024 Virginia Annual Interoperability Conference, October 29, 2024, in Roanoke.

Division of Community Health and Technical Resources (CHaTR)

Committees and Meetings

- **Thomas Jefferson EMS Council Board of Directors Meeting:** July 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (virtual)
- **Regional Directors Group Meeting:** ODEMSA Office, July 31, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **Education Coordinator Update, Assisting the ACE Division:** ODEMSA Office, August 9, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- **Lord Fairfax EMS Council Board of Directors Meeting:** August 21, 6:30 p.m. (virtual)
- **Thomas Jefferson EMS Council Board of Directors Meeting:** September 11, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (virtual)
- **Education Coordinator Institute and Education Coordinator Update, Assisting the ACE Division:** Virginia Beach, September 23 - 28
- **EMS Advisory Board – ChaTR Staff to Committees:**
 - Workforce Development Committee Meeting: August 1
 - EMS for Children (EMSC) Committee Meeting: August 1
 - Virginia Air Medical Committee Meeting: August 1
- **Virginia Telehealth Network Summit:** September 25

Outreach and Education

- **EMS Officer 1 courses have been offered multiple times this quarter:**
 - September 14-15, Dale City Volunteer Fire Department – 37 Registered, 16 Completed
 - August 24-25, Tri-City Regional Fire EMS School – Canceled (low registration, minimum 15 required)
- **Upcoming EMS Officer 1 Courses (as of October 10):**
 - November 9-10, Rappahannock Community College, “Open” Registration
 - December 7-8, Loudoun County Fire-Rescue Training Center, 24 Registration
 - Currently 10 class offerings are scheduled for January 13-June 15, 2025
 - Additional class requests are being received regularly.



EMS OFFICER 1 COURSE COMPLETION DASHBOARD

COURSE YEAR	NUMBER GRADUATED	NUMBER OF CATEGORY 2 CEUs (24hrs)**	NUMBER OF CLASSES
PROGRAM TOTALS	463	10592	29
2024	81	1944	6
2023	77	1848	7
2022	72	1728	4
2021	24	576	1
2020	39	936	2
2019	67	1608	4
2018	38	912	2
2017*	38	608	2
2016*	27	432	1
*Course awarded 16 CEUs		**Does not reflect instructor CEUs awarded	
Updated: 10/10/2024			

- **EMSC Program**
 - The “Pediatric Transport Data Element” for the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) update to version 3.5.1 is nearing finalization. The NASEMSO Data Managers Council and Pediatric Emergency Care Council are collaborating to ensure the use of relevant terminology for pediatric transport devices.

Operational Activities

- **Virginia Air Medical activities:**
 - Data submissions to the Medevac Helicopter EMS application remain strong, with 628 weather-related turndowns logged in Q3 2024 (69% for interfacility transports). This is a decrease from 510 turndowns in Q3 2023.
 - In February 2024, the air medical committee recommended adding hazards to the Helicopter EMS system: laser strikes, drone activity, and obstructions near landing zones. As of July 1, 2024, no such hazards had been logged.
 - The CHaTR Division Director and the Emergency Operations Communications Specialist represented OEMS at the inaugural ECHO Public Safety Aviation Conference in Richmond, held in September.
- **Technical Assistance Activities**
 - CHaTR staff supports the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VD FP) in evaluating Fire and EMS systems across Virginia localities. The most recent evaluation took place in Patrick County from August 26-28, 2024.
- **EMS for Children Activities**
 - **National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP):** The assessment of licensed EMS agencies responding to 911 calls concluded in August 2024. National and Virginia-specific results will be shared with stakeholders once available. This survey aimed to establish a baseline for improving pediatric readiness nationwide.
 - **Pediatric Readiness Recognition Programs Collaborative (PRRPC):** The EMSC program continues to participate in this national initiative, which supports states in developing voluntary programs to recognize basic pediatric readiness in both hospital and prehospital settings.
 - **Ambulance Child Restraints:** A limited supply of small ambulance child restraints (3-18 lbs.) is available for EMS agencies in need. Agency leaders interested may contact David Edwards at david.edwards@vdh.virginia.gov for more information.

Items of High Interest

- The CHaTR Division Director continues to chair the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Rural EMS Committee, and the Joint Committee on Rural EMS Care.
- The Pediatric Emergency Care (PEC) Council of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) will have a full meeting on November 19, 2024

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

NA

Blue Ridge EMS Council (BREMS)

Committees and Meetings

- Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Group: 7/8, 8/12, 9/9
- Stroke Smart Event: 7/23, 8/19, 9/11, 9/30
- Bedford County LEPC Meeting: 7/10
- Teleflex Equipment Demonstrations: 7/10, 7/11
- Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA) /BREMS Meeting: 7/18
- Virginia Stroke Systems Task Force and Coordinator Consortium: 7/19
- LGH EMS Liaison Meeting: 7/23
- Stroke Council Meeting: 7/24
- Trauma Core Meeting: 7/25
- UVA Biocomplexity Institute Emerging Disease Surveillance and Modeling: 8/1
- MCI Meeting: 8/14
- Protocol/Performance Improvement Update: 8/16
- Regional Blood Program Committee: 8/21
- Peer Team Activation Training: 8/22
- BREMS Regional CE New Horizons Training: 8/27
- Regional PI Forum: 8/28, 9/17
- Coalition Advisory Committee: 8/30
- Blood Connections Meeting: 9/3
- Immersive Room Visit (CVCC, Va Western & New River CC): 9/3
- BREMS & Impact Fire Responder Meeting on Regional Peer Team: 9/4
- Chest Pain Council Meeting: 9/5
- BREMS Regional Dementia Training: 9/6
- MCI Update & EMS Leadership Meeting (Liberty University): 9/9
- BREMS Board of Directors Meeting: 9/10
- BREMS & IFR Monthly Meeting on CISM & Training: 9/16
- Appomattox LEPC Meeting: 9/19
- Virginia Heart Attack Coalition Meeting: 9/26

Outreach and Education

- **Quarterly Regional CE Education provided by BREMS**
 - Teleflex Demo Training: 7/10 & 7/11/24
 - Peer Team Activation Training: 8/22/24
 - New Horizon's Ischemic Stroke (BREMS Regional CE Program): 8/27/24
 - BREMS Peer Team Training: 9/4 & 9/6/24
 - Channelopathies in Pediatric Sudden Cardiac Arrest
 - Immersive Room Scenario Build Training with Echo Healthcare: 9/23 & 9/24/24
 - Mechanical Ventilation Workshop Training: 9/25/24
- **Data to Action Resource Team (DART) Monthly Meetings:** BREMS, in collaboration with the Central Virginia Health Department, Horizon, Social Services, Public Schools, local law enforcement, and State Police, implemented coordinated

initiatives addressing substance use and mental health challenges in Central Virginia. These efforts led to the development of community resources, enhanced support networks in schools, and joint interventions with law enforcement, resulting in more accessible mental health support services and a unified response strategy for substance abuse incidents.

- **CISM Peer Team Quarterly Meetings:** Activated after stressful events in the region, BREMS partners with Impact First Responder to provide quarterly resilience training. CISM Peer Team members also offer one-on-one support.
- **Regional Education Coordinator Meetings:** BREMS collaborates regularly with educators in the region through these meetings.
- **Immersive Room Training Coordination:** BREMS manages Immersive Room training to ensure familiarity with the application and software for training purposes.
- **Participation in Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup:** BREMS attends meetings and provides all toolkit information from the workgroup on the website for easy access.
- **Support for Local Agencies:** BREMS is committed to helping localities navigate new processes and supporting agencies in the transition.
- **Protocols & Performance Improvement**
 - **Performance Improvement Committee:** Met in September. BREMS continues to review quarterly data with Stroke and Trauma Services for upcoming PI meetings, aiming to compare data across the care continuum to ensure adherence to EMS protocols and performance standards.
 - **Protocols:** Targeting PI Committee review by January 1, 2025, with a planned release date of January 15, 2025.
 - **Stakeholder Engagement:** BREMS PI meetings include key hospital and community partners, focusing on stroke, trauma, and STEMI care.

Operational Activities

- **EMS Liaison Committee:** BREMS holds monthly meetings to discuss medication kit exchange options, CSR/DEA licensing, and restocking supply exchanges with hospitals.
- **Regional Communication System (Lifeline):** As of August 2024, a structural analysis was completed on Long Mountain instead of Leigh Mountain. The paperwork has been reinitiated for the structural analysis of Leigh Mountain.

Items of High Interest

- **BREMS Partnership with Liberty University and Pegasus Solutions Group:** Working together to develop a regional MCI plan and training for the BREMS region, with a planned Active Shooter Response event at Liberty University in Summer 2025. Partners include LU, BREMS, VDH/OEMS, VDEM, VSP, FBI, and regional EMS

localities. Initial phases involve creating the MCI plan and planning train-the-trainer courses for the region.

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- **Regional Blood Program Development:** A subcommittee of the Board of Directors has been formed to research and develop a regional blood program for BREMS.
- **Monthly Regional CE Topics:** Scheduled for FY 25 through the third quarter. Planning is underway for an AHA BLS CPR Instructor class, along with ACLS and PALS Instructor classes, set for the second quarter of FY 25.

Central Shenandoah EMS Council

Committees and Meetings

- | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Quarterly CIPS Meeting (Jul-Sept) | 2024-07-09 18:30 | Agenda | Minutes |
| • Quarterly Pharmacy Committee Meeting | 2024-07-31 15:00 | Agenda | Minutes |
| • Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting | 2024-07-30 14:00 | Agenda | Minutes |
| • Special Virtual Board of Directors Meeting | 2024-09-04 09:30 | No Agenda | Minutes |
| • Performance Improvement Meeting | 2024-09-05 10:00 | Agenda | Minutes |
| • Quarterly MCRC FY24 Q4 | 2024-09-19 14:00 | Agenda | Minutes |

Outreach and Education

<i>Event Name/Description</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>
• <i>RSAF Grant Assistance For Agencies</i>	<i>Central Shenandoah EMS Council Staunton, VA 24401</i>	<i>August 20, 2024</i>
• <i>CSEMS Regional Awards</i>	<i>Central Shenandoah EMS Council Staunton, VA</i>	<i>August 21, 2024</i>
• <i>RSAF Grant Assistance For Agencies</i>	<i>Central Shenandoah EMS Council Staunton, VA</i>	<i>August 26, 2024</i>
• <i>Documentation Class</i>	<i>Broadway Emergency Squad Broadway, VA</i>	<i>August 27, 2024</i>
• <i>Hospital Safety Day</i>	<i>Western State Hospital Staunton, VA</i>	<i>August 28, 2024</i>
• <i>Bath County Grant Assistance</i>	<i>Bath County Courthouse Bath County, VA</i>	<i>August 29, 2024</i>
• <i>Legal Considerations in EMS</i>	<i>Mount Solon Vol. Fire & Rescue</i>	<i>September 4,</i>

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | <i>Mount Solon, VA</i> | <i>2024</i> |
| ● <i>Friday Night Lights</i> | <i>Bridgewater Rescue Squad</i> | <i>September 9, 2024</i> |
| | <i>Bridgewater, VA</i> | |
| ● <i>New Leader Orientation Course</i> | <i>VAVRS Annual Convention</i> | <i>September 19,</i> |
| | <i>Virginia Beach, VA.</i> | <i>2024</i> |

Operational Activities

- **Background Checks:** CSEMS conducted an estimated 554 FieldPrint background checks, providing EMS agencies with resources on health, wellness, regional programs, and recruitment. Staff also shared information on Stroke Smart, Public Access AED (PulsePoint), and EMS volunteer opportunities.
- **IT and Telecommunications Collaboration:** CSEMS partnered with three Regional EMS Offices to develop internal IT and telecommunications infrastructure, aiming for full integration with VITA systems for enhanced security, cost-effectiveness, and system redundancy.
- **Leadership Appointment:** Daniel Linkins was appointed President of the Staunton West End Business Association, representing CSEMS.
- **Protocol Updates:** Major updates included protocols for Distal Femoral IO placement and Eclampsia/Preeclampsia treatment. A pilot test is nearing completion for a new protocol app featuring an integrated PediStat medication calculator, with AI-enhanced reviews for consistency and accuracy.
- **Shenandoah Valley EMS Expo Planning:** Planning continues for [2025 Shenandoah Valley EMS Expo](#) in conjunction with TJEMS.
- **CSEMS Community Training Center Certifications:** Certifications provided include ACLS - 30, ACLS Renewal - 50, BLS Healthcare Provider - 462, BLS Renewal - 287, Heartsaver Courses - 682, PALS Provider - 4, and PALS Renewal - 6.
- **Technical Support:** Staff addressed over 135 technical assistance requests, primarily in education (52%), technical support (19%), AHA Training (7%), and Performance Improvement (5%), and responded to 51 agency support requests.
- **Regional EMS Awards:** SEMS presented five [Regional EMS Awards](#) for Outstanding Contributions to EMS for 2024.

Items of High Interest

NA

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- Board of Directors Meeting - October 29, 2024
- Performance Improvement Committee Meeting- December 5, 2024

- Application for Designation as a Regional EMS Council

Rappahannock EMS Council

Committees and Meetings

- **Heart and Stroke Workgroup:** Met on July 17 to discuss the Stroke Smart program, Heart Safe promotion, STEMI scorecards, and proposed elevating HOB and Labetalol for hemorrhagic stroke.
- **CISM Workgroup:** Held elections for coordinator and assistant coordinators on July 8.
- **Cultural Diversity Workgroup:** Met on July 15 to develop a cultural diversity training video.

Regional Activities:

- PD 16 Rappahannock Area Quarterly Marcus Alert Meeting.
- Met with Assured Partners to discuss a safety culture initiative aimed at preventing EMS workplace injuries and illnesses.

State-Level Activities:

- VHHA Hospital Emergency Preparedness Forum on August 16.
- VHAC EKG Education Meeting on September 26, focusing on statewide EKG training for non-ALS providers.
- DCJS Virginia First Responder Wellness Stakeholder Meeting on September 19.

National Activities:

- HHS/ASPE Project Echo Clinical Readiness Rounds held on July 2, August 6 & 20, September 3 & 17.

Outreach and Education

- **Safety Seat Check Sites:** REMS partnered with VDH, RRHD MRCs, and rural EMS agencies in Culpeper, Rappahannock, and Orange Counties to provide in-person safety seat checks. The program was featured on the front page of *The Freelance Star* and *Culpeper Star-Exponent*.
- **COPE Program:** Served 1,113 patrons with education on SUD and mental health in collaboration with RACSB, RAHD, BrightView Health, Lloyd Moss, and MHA, covering treatment options, recovery, prevention, medication, and success stories.
- **Training Initiatives:** REMS conducted PHTLS provider training and MCIM I/II.
- **Stroke Smart Toolkit:** REMS developed a Stroke Smart training toolkit for volunteers, as requested by RAHD for competency training.

Operational Activities

- **Historical Files Digitization Project:** REMS received over 100 volunteer hours from RAHD MRC and an additional 359 hours from ReEmployAbility volunteers, plus 45 hours from COPE volunteers, totaling 504 volunteer hours this quarter. A new volunteer was also onboarded to assist with reception duties.
- **EMS Agency Support:** Loaned training equipment to Orange County EMS, provided access to the Regional Training and Simulation Center for Spotsylvania County, and shared the center with RAHD MRC for a training event.
- **IT System Transition:** Migrated to a new independent IT system, covering digital file storage, email domains, server hardware, and re-establishing updated mailing groups.
- **CISM Service Requests:** Introduced an automated digital form for CISM team service requests.
- **2024 Regional EMS Awards:** Held on September 17, with nine award categories presented, including special regional awards for Lifetime Achievement and Outstanding EMS Calls.

Items of High Interest

- **High School Externship Program:** Confirmed partnership for a high school externship program and working to establish a similar program with Spotsylvania County.
- **Medical Interpretation Support:** Certified REMS staff provided English-to-Spanish interpreting services for VDH's Transportation Safety Program within the Office of Family Health.

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER FOR REMS COUNCIL:

- **CDC Public Health Associate Partnership:** A CDC Public Health associate will work with REMS Council for two years, focusing on population health topics, evaluating Community Outreach programs, recommending best practices, creating a scalable health literacy program, and researching medication errors potentially linked to EMS fatigue.
- **VAVRS German EMS Exchange Program:** REMS Council will host a team of four EMS providers from Europe, who will spend nearly three weeks exploring Virginia's EMS System as part of the VAVRS German EMS Exchange Program.

Southwest Virginia EMS Council

Committees and Meetings

- **Regional EMS Council Director's Group:** July 31, 2024
- **Rules & Regulations Committee:** August 1, 2024
- **EMS Advisory Board:** August 2, 2024
- **Virginia Medication Kit Transition Workgroup:** August 12, September 9, October 7, 2024
- **Russell County, Virginia Medication Distribution Meeting:** August 29, 2024
- **Southwest Virginia EMS Council Board of Directors:** September 19, 2024
- **Regional Medication Kit Transition Workgroup:** August 19, and August 30, 2024
- **Southwest Virginia Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee:** August 30, 2024
- **VDH/VDEM/Coalition Partners Update:** Bi-monthly
- **Central Virginia Community College AHA Partnership Meeting:** September 12, 2024
- **Weekly Hybrid Office Director Information Sharing Meetings:** Ongoing

Outreach and Education

- **Monthly CE Sessions:** Hosted free 3-hour CE sessions in Bristol, VA, covering Operations (8/16), Airway (9/9), and Cardiac (10/22).
- **Multi-Drug-Resistant Organism Training:** Collaborated with Mount Rogers Health District to promote this training for EMS providers, offering CE credit for completion.
- **VAVRS Convention Support:** Assisted with the Virginia Beach convention and provided infection control officer training.
- **EMT Course Launch:** Started an EMT course at the council office.

Operational Activities

- **FieldPrint Fingerprint Site:** Completed 313 fingerprint screenings from July to September.
- **EMS Awards Program Promotion:** Encouraged submissions for the regional EMS Awards Program.
- **Medication Kit Exchange Survey:** Surveyed EMS agencies to assess readiness for medication kit exchange.

Items of High Interest

- **Medication Kit Transition Project:** Council staff participated in statewide EMS Medication Kit Transition workgroups, developing guidance and tools for agencies ahead of the November 2024 deadline. On October 10, some regional hospitals agreed to extend the transition date based on FDA updates. Council staff continue to support agencies with transition planning.
- **School Crisis and Emergency Plan Review:** Per Va. Code § 22.1-279.8(D), public schools must have a crisis, emergency management, and medical response plan. The Council launched a system to support the review process and notified all 16 regional

school systems. As of October 15, 2024, the Regional Director reviewed 53 school plans, with three district-level reviews (covering 37 schools) and 15 individual school plan reviews underway.

- **Regional Hurricane Response:** Council staff supported hurricane disaster response from 9/27 to 10/4, coordinating transport needs, logistics, and EOC operations.

KEY EVENTS OF THE COMING QUARTER:

- **Regional EMS Awards Program:** Finalize the program and host an awards event (date TBA).
- **Medication Kit Transition Support:** Continue assisting EMS agencies with the transition process, following the revised timeline.