



EMS Section of The International Association of Fire Chiefs

4025 Fair Ridge Drive • Fairfax, VA 22033-2868 • Tel: 703/273-0911 • www.iafc.org



2010 Accomplishments

Top achievements in 2010 and a list of events, meetings & initiatives involving EMS Section representation on behalf of the IAFC and fire service based EMS

- The EMS Section played a strong role on Capitol Hill to reinstate the EMS personnel notification provisions of the 1991 Ryan White Act; the Dale Long Emergency Medical Service Providers Protection Act; Defending Public Safety Helicopter use by opposing regulation that would limit the use of FAA Part 91 helicopters; Public Safety Officer Benefit program advancements; Medicare/Medicaid Ambulance Fee Schedule funding; and FIRE and SAFER Grant funding for pre-hospital 9-1-1 emergency medical patient care; among others.
- EMS Section Executive Board Chair, Deputy Chief Gary Ludwig, was named to the National Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (NEMSAC).
- The IAFC submitted formal comments, developed by the IAFC EMS Section and its Medicare/Medicaid Committee, to the Centers for Medicare Services (CMS), concerning proposed changes to the reporting of fractional mileage, the multifactor productivity adjustment for reimbursements, enrollment requirements, and the urban/rural/super-rural bonus payments. The letter also requests that the National Rule Making Committee be reconvened to deal with issues raised in 2000 and in the subsequent GAO funding report and to consider Treat and Release and Non-Traditional Destination issues, especially in urban areas.
- The IAFC, through the EMS Section, developed an alliance with the Air Borne Law Enforcement Association in order to establish a single voice for public safety HEMS operations. Together, the IAFC and the Air Borne Law Enforcement Association developed and submitted formal comments to the FAA's NPRM regarding certification for HEMS operations.
- The EMS Section continued to distribute a best-practice document in response to inquiries on administering influenza vaccines for fire/EMS personnel, compiled by the Emerging Disease Committee. The document answers questions about the vaccines, provides background information on requirements and explains their importance.
- The IAFC – with the effort and funding by the EMS Section – continued as a sponsoring agency for the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). Chiefs David Becker, Ret., and Paul Berlin continued to serve as directors on the CoAEMSP Board and Chief Becker serves as the Commissioner from the IAFC to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). The IAFC is the first fire representative to CoAEMSP, which is the major accrediting body for EMS educational programs.
- IAFC EMS Section members participated in the MIECE Blue Ribbon panel, organized as a result of the 2008 Mexican Hat Motor Coach Crash in Utah.

- The EMS Section continued its involvement with the Committee of Accreditation of Emergency Medical Services Program (CoAEMSP) in working with EMS training programs that provide paramedic training.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1901 Technical Committee on Ambulances formally met to develop ambulance construction safety standards. Chief Gary Morris, Ret., was named and funded by the EMS and SHS Sections to this effort. The Group is formally titled the NFPA 1917 Committee and worked in 2010 to develop the important standards.
- The EMS Section continued to distribute the *Rehabilitation and Medical Monitoring; A guide for Best Practices, an Introduction to NFPA 1584 (2008 Standards)*, developed with the Massimo Corporation and Dr. Bryan Bledsoe as well as related on-line educational tools.
- The EMS Section continued to distribute the Orange Ribbon Report, which serves as a toolkit for volunteer departments transitioning into EMS response and was developed with the Volunteer & Combination Officers Section (VCOS). The report considers the role and benefits to patient care in pre-hospital 911 EMS deployment response; costs involved in adding EMS to departments; communications; funding avenues and cost-recovery systems; legal requirements; human resources considerations; and quality-management systems.
- The EMS Section sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security on anthrax countermeasures.
- The EMS Section participated in the IAFC "Section Services Task Force."
- The annual Heart Safe Community Awards – sponsored by the EMS Section and Physio-Control – were presented at Fire-Rescue Med 2010 in Las Vegas for the Heart Safe Community PAD Program Large and Small Community Awards and the STEMI Awareness Community Program Award.
- The EMS Section continued its work with US Fire Administration and National Fire Academy staff to integrate EMS into the mission and deliverables coming from those two organizations. The EMS Section represents the IAFC on the National Fire Academy EMS Education Agenda Advisory group.
- The EMS Section continued its work with IAFC National Programs on a US Fire Administration grant for a Fire Service and EMS Medical Directors handbook.
- The EMS Section worked with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) on jointly released position papers on the role and importance of fire service based EMS. The two also worked in conjunction to create a new video on fire service based EMS to properly articulate and highlight its beneficial role in America's communities.
- The EMS Section produced 7 podcasts for section member and public distribution. Topics included quality management and improvement; a FRM 2010 sneak peek on new info on infectious disease; a FRM 2010 sneak peek on the leadership academy; a discussion on the EMS resource deployment study; a big picture view of EMS issues; surviving the economic storm; and Chief Medical Officer accreditation.
- The EMS Section worked with other the National EMS Management Association to issue a statement in support of the Center for Public Safety Excellence Chief Medical

Officer designation program.

- The EMS Section was involved with seminars and pre-conference courses at Fire Rescue International, 2010, in Chicago, IL.
- Successful Fire Rescue Med 2010 Conference with over 600 in attendance and strong educational programs and panel discussions covering various issues faced by EMS systems. The show floor saw over 50 vendors exhibiting the newest technology and services in pre-hospital emergency response and patient care. FRM attendees learned of Federal EMS initiatives from FICEMS members. FRM attendees also enjoyed informative keynote addresses by Craig Fugate, U.S. FEMA Administrator;; Bryan Bledsoe, Professor, Emergency Medicine at the University of Nevada School of Medicine; Dan Limmer, EMT-P, EMS Educator, Author and Photographer; and Heather Davis, MS, NREMT-P, Program Director, UCLA-Daniel Freeman Paramedic Education Program.
- The EMS Section hosted focus group meetings at FRM 2010 to engage the FRM Program Planning Committee with current attendees to identify improvements to the education agenda.
- The 2010 *James O. Page EMS Achievement Award* was presented to Bruce Evans, Assistant Chief of Business and Support Services, North Las Vegas Fire Department in recognition of his long service and many achievements at the local, state and national organization level on issues important to the future of fire service-based EMS.
- The EMS Section's Meritorious Service Award was created in 2009 to acknowledge work of merit during the year. At FRM 2010, the Meritorious Service Award was presented to Chris Shimer, Rick Patrick, and Michael Carter. In addition, the award was also presented to Lucian Deaton, the EMS Section Liaison, to thank him for his work as he accepted a new position within the IAFC's National Programs. The 3 award winners in 2009 were: outgoing IAFC President Chief Larry Grorud for his work on EMS within the IAFC; former U.S. Fire Administrator Chief Greg Cade for his efforts in making EMS as one of the missions of USFA and NFA; and EMS Coordinator Mike McEvoy for his unwavering and influential help in many EMS Section activities, including keeping the membership updated on H1N1.
- EMS Section Treasurer, Chief Rob Brown, was named to the FRI Planning Committee.
- The EMS Section updated the business plan for FRM, which included a FRM vision and mission statement as well as ways to grow FRM and increase attendance.
- The IAFC EMS Section staffed a booth and also hosted a roundtable discussion at EMS Today 2010 on emerging issues in fire service based EMS.
- Elections for the EMS Section Executive Board positions of Vice Chair, Secretary, and Director at Large took place in 2010. When nominations closed, two candidates had announced their intentions to run for Secretary: Chief Michael Metro and Chief Jeff Lindsey. At Fire Rescue-Med, Chief Metro won the Secretary election with 258 votes (Lindsey received 130), retired Chief David Becker was installed as Vice Chair, and Deputy Chief Croom was installed for Director-at-Large 2010-2011.
- The EMS Section created a scholarship for FRM 2010 with Physio Control, which helps provides funding for the registration fees for selected first-time attendees.

- The Section continued its outreach to members via the EMS Section Facebook Group; Google Newsgroup; monthly e-blast; the May EMS Section-themed *On Scene*, the EMS Chief Advisor newsletters; and with the EMS Section website, www.iafcems.org.
- The Section presented a gift to outgoing IAFC President Chief Jeff Johnson at the Presidential Reception at FRI.

A Calendar of Representation and Advocacy in 2010 on behalf of the EMS Section Membership and its goals

January 7-9: National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) 2009 Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

January 20: FICEMS meeting in Washington, DC

January 29 - 31: IAFC EMS Section 2010 Strategic Planning Meeting, IAFC HQ

February 5-7: Committee of Accreditation of Emergency Medical Services Program (CoAEMSP) meetings in Phoenix, AZ

February 17: USFA/HHS Medical Directors Handbook development meeting at IAFC HQ

February 19: Fire Service-based EMS Advocates meeting in Washington, DC

February 24: Conference call with DHS OHA Assistant Secretary Garza

March 4-6: EMS Today 2010, Baltimore, MD

March 6: Chief Sinclair participated in a White House-led meeting on HSDP-8

March 8-9: Participation in the National Fire Academy EMS Curriculum Steering Committee

March 29: Meeting with the IAFC "Section Services Task Force"

March 17-18: National EMS Stakeholders Meeting

April 27-28: NHTSA Highway Mass-Casualty Response meeting

April 28-29: The 22nd Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner, Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C.; Presentation with the Fire Service Based EMS Advocates; and meetings with several members of Congress

April 28: Chief Sinclair moderated a CFSI seminar on infectious diseases

April 29: Chief Sinclair participated in a fire service-based EMS Advocates panel

May 1-5: Fire Rescue Med 2010, Las Vegas, NV

May 2: Annual EMS Section Membership Meeting, Las Vegas, NV

May 20-21: National Registry of EMT (NREMT) project meeting

June 4-5: EMS Section Executive Board members Chiefs Sinclair and Becker attended the 40th Anniversary celebration of NREMT

June 24: FICEMS Meeting in Washington, DC

July 9-11: FRM 2011/12 Program Planning committee meetings

August 6-8: Committee of Accreditation of Emergency Medical Services Program (CoAEMSP) meetings in Chicago, IL

August 26: EMS Section Board meeting with National Fire Academy Superintendent, Dr. Denis Onieal, FRI, Chicago, IL

August 27: EMS Section Executive Board members Chiefs Ludwig and Metro met with the Metro Chiefs to continue the discussion of AMR

September 7-12: National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) Annual Symposium, Schaumburg, IL

September 13: EMS Medical Directors Handbook meeting to review the document

September: National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) meeting

September: Medical Directors handbook meeting to work on the document

October 6: Meetings in DC regarding FAA rulemaking on HEMS

October 7-8: IAFC/IAFF Fire-based EMS Seminar Curriculum meeting

October 12-13: National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Annual Convention, Norfolk, VA

October 26: National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC) conference call

November 18-19: National EMS Management Association's "National EMS Officers Levels and Competencies Conference"

December 13: MIECE Blue Ribbon panel

December 15-16: National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC) Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC

December 17: FICEMS meeting in Washington, DC