

Maryland
EMS  **News**

For All Emergency Medical Services Clinicians

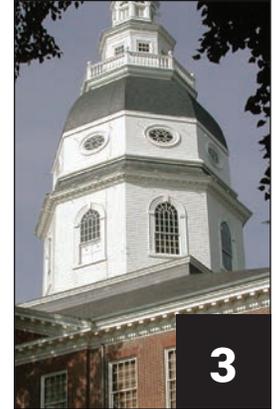
Vol. 52 No. 2

February 2026



**From Surface
to Service:
Six Troopers Earn Spots
on MSP's Underwater
Recovery Team**

Plus:
**Winterfest 2026 Coverage
Fatal ODs Reach 10-Year Low
PG County EMS Leads
Push to Improve STEMI Care
Legislative Update
Upcoming Events**



In This Issue

MIEMSS Legislative Update – February 2026 3

Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar – 2026..... 5

Maryland Overdose Deaths Fall for Fourth Straight Year..... 6

Calling All Future EMTs and Firefighters 7

Prince George’s County STEMI Improvement Initiative 8

Become a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician 10

Upcoming Stop the Bleed / Train the Trainer Courses 11

Winterfest EMS Conference 2026 Coverage 12

Winterfest Pre-Conference Programming – S.T.A.B.L.E. 13

Winterfest Pre-Conference Programming – Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) 14

Dr. Thomas Chiccone Honored 15

2026 Upcoming Events 16

MSP Underwater Recovery Team 17

Cecil County EMS Deploys New LIFEPAK 35 Cardiac Monitors 18

2026 EMSC Pre-Conferences S.T.A.B.L.E. Program..... 20

Modernizing EVOC Evaluations Through Digital Innovation 21

Prehospital Blood and Post-Crash Care..... 21

Point Counterpoint XLIII 22

2026 MATC Registration 23

National Fire Service Staff & Command Course 23

Maryland EMS News
MIEMSS
 653 W. Pratt St.
 Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



Governor Wes Moore
Lt. Governor Aruna Miller

Copyright © 2026 by the Maryland
 Institute for Emergency Medical
 Services Systems
 653 W. Pratt St.
 Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
 www.miemss.org

Chairman, EMS Board:
 Clay B. Stamp, NRP

Executive Director, MIEMSS:
 Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH

Managing Editor:
 Patrick Tandy (ptandy@miemss.org)

Design & Layout:
 Dan Taylor

Photography:
 MIEMSS Media Services
 (unless noted otherwise)

Office of Government Affairs

MIEMSS Legislative Update – February 2026

THE 449TH SESSION OF THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY convened at the State House in Annapolis on January 14, 2026. Over the ensuing 90 days, members of the State Senate and House of Delegates will consider hundreds of bills, including many that impact Maryland's EMS system. For example, the Budget Bill (SB 282) provides funding for MIEMSS and its EMS system partners via the Maryland Emergency Services Operating Fund (MEMSOF).

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2025, the source of revenue for MEMSOF was up to \$24.50 of a \$40.00 annual surcharge on motor vehicle registrations, or up to \$49 if paid biennially (or \$73.50 if paid triennially). MEMSOF also receives funding from a \$7.50 moving violation surcharge. The long-term funding stability of MIEMSS is, therefore, dependent on the long-term solvency of MEMSOF. For this reason, the MIEMSS Office of Government Affairs is closely monitoring HB 212, which seeks to close a loophole that allows Maryland residents to register their motor vehicles out of state. Should this legislation pass, it could

provide MEMSOF with an additional \$900,000+ per year.

MIEMSS has introduced one departmental bill this year. HB 276 / SB 24 seeks to revise and streamline certain statutory provisions pertaining to the Public Access AED Program, which falls under the agency's purview pursuant to § 13-517 of the Education Article. It also brings one subsection of the Health – General Article into alignment with the bill as proposed. More specifically, this legislation: eliminates obsolete provisions (e.g., references to “regional council AED committee”); adds one exemption to the list of entities that can operate an AED without a valid certificate (namely, law enforcement agencies that deploy AEDs in patrol vehicles); defines the role of the “AED coordinator” in statute (currently, the role is referenced only in COMAR); adds a provision requiring the AED coordinator to promote awareness about the AED, its location, and operation among potential or foreseeable operators in case of emergency; includes grocery stores and restaurants subject to 21-330.3 of the Health – General Article in the definition of



Send press releases, agency/departmental announcements, and other EMS-related news to ptandy@miemss.org for possible inclusion in a future issue of *Maryland EMS News*.

[The] MIEMSS Office of Government Affairs is closely monitoring HB 212, which seeks to close a loophole that allows Maryland residents to register their motor vehicles out of state ... it could provide MEMSOF with an additional \$900,000+ per year.

“entities” (since they register as such in the State’s AED Registry, thereby harmonizing state law with current practice); and makes other technical and clarifying changes. Maryland’s Public Access AED Program was established in 1999. Since then, the General Assembly has required that all public schools, county and municipal swimming pools, grocery stores, restaurants, and certain libraries have a registered AED on premises. There are currently over 17,000 registered AEDs in the State of Maryland.

Thus far in the Session, MIEMSS has gone on record opposing one bill, SB 195, which would exempt a driver of a motorcycle and the driver’s passenger from wearing protective headgear

if the driver is at least age 21, has been licensed to operate a motorcycle for at least two years, and has completed a specified motorcycle safety course. Maryland’s current helmet law, which requires all motorcycle riders to wear eye-protective devices and headgear that meets certain standards, was created in response to widespread concerns regarding the incidence and severity of head injuries resulting from motorcycle crashes in Maryland and throughout the country. This law represents an effective public health strategy, chiefly because motorcycle head injuries often result in fatalities or life-long disabilities and require intensive and more costly inpatient and outpatient treatment and resources. The Maryland

Department of Health has also opposed this bill for similar reasons.

Currently, the Office of Government Affairs team is monitoring approximately 10 bills. The deadline for state lawmakers to introduce bills is February 9 in the Senate and February 13 in the House.

Learn more about the MIEMSS Office of Government Affairs at <https://www.miemss.org/home/Departments-Programs/Government-Affairs> or scan the QR code below.

SCAN ME!



MIEMSS Profile: Christian Miele

The MIEMSS Office of Government Affairs (OGA) serves as the agency’s primary liaison to the executive and legislative branches of state government. As OGA Director, Christian Miele leads MIEMSS’ efforts toward developing and advancing effective statutory and regulatory policies that support all components of the statewide EMS system, the emergency care system, and Maryland’s healthcare system as a whole, while cultivating collaborative partnerships with relevant stakeholders.

Scan the QR code to view the video.

Visit EMS News Online at MIEMSS.org



Maryland Life Safety Partners Presents
Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar – 2026

NEW at the 2026 Special Seminar from
National Fire Protection Association



What: Steps to Safety™ Train the Trainer course (In Person)

When: March 21, 2026 (Saturday) **Time:** 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Where: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
 4500 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20742

The NFPA **Steps to Safety™** training program pairs fire service/EMS with their community partners to educate, engage, and bring key resources to their older adults to reduce the incidence of injuries and deaths from fire and falls. This seminar is a Train the Trainer workshop (full day) that will enable participants to deliver the materials (FREE and available for Download) to community groups, at Open Houses, during home visits, and education for your members. The goal is to create a network of referral and resources to support older adults to live safely and independently at home.

Target Audience:

- ↕ Community Risk Reduction Specialists
- ↕ Fire & Injury Prevention Coordinators
- ↕ Public Health Educators
- ↕ Health & Safety Advocates
- ↕ First Responders: EMS, Fire, Rescue, MIH Coordinators
- ↕ Social Service and Elder Care professionals

Registration will be posted at www.mfri.org/training/seminars

Registration: Online registration is through the MFRI Seminar portal: www.mfri.org

Seminars – look first for March 21, 2026 date & then the title.

Registration **closes Friday, March 13, 2026**

This Seminar is Free and supported by many partners. Registration is Required.

You will receive a confirmation email from MFRI to your email the day you register. A reminder email will be sent out two weeks in advance of the Seminar. If you have any questions, require special accommodations, or need to cancel, please email seminars@mfri.org or call 301-226-9900 or 800-275-6374.





Maryland Overdose Deaths Fall for Fourth Straight Year, Reaching 10-Year Low

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS declined by 26 percent last year, marking the fourth consecutive year of reported decreases in the state, according to the Maryland Overdose Data Dashboard (<https://health.maryland.gov/dataoffice/Pages/mdh-dashboards.aspx>). Maryland recorded 1,315 overdose deaths in 2025, representing the lowest level seen in the last decade and reflecting a 53 percent decrease from the state's historic high of 2,800 in 2021.

“Maryland continues to show that our partnerships with local communities are invaluable in our efforts to reduce overdoses across the state,” said Governor Wes Moore. “We have more work to do – but by working together, we will continue to fight for those seeking recovery.”

Decreases were seen broadly across all major drug categories and all demographics. The number of fentanyl-related overdose deaths dropped by 31 percent, falling from 1,314 in 2024 to 906 last year. Fatal overdoses also declined by 31 percent among non-Hispanic Black Marylanders, falling from 812 in 2024 to 563, while overdose deaths among non-Hispanic whites fell by 22 percent, from 789 to 618.

“While we continue to lose too many of our loved ones, our progress to reduce overdoses and save lives is significant, and we owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who shows up every day to meet people where they are and make connections to substance abuse care,” said Lt. Governor Aruna Miller. “This work starts at the ground level, with

dedicated partners continuing their efforts to foster relationships and make connections to services that protect the health and well-being of those with substance use disorders.”

Overdose deaths among non-Hispanic Black men aged 55 and over – the most affected demographic group in terms of population size – fell to 98.6 per 100,000 individuals, down from 138.1 in 2024. However, despite last year's decline, overdose rates for this group were three times higher than the rate among white men in the same age group.

To ensure that all Maryland communities are connected to care, the Maryland Overdose Response Advisory Council (<https://stopoverdose.maryland.gov/morac/>) continues to prioritize community engagement to inform strategies that reduce overdoses while driving down disparities.

“Everyone deserves access to substance use recovery, and Maryland is working to ensure that our constituents have multiple pathways to care,” said Maryland Department of Health Secretary Dr. Meena Seshamani. “From our crisis services that give Marylanders a no-wrong-door way to access help to efforts that make treatment and recovery services easier to find, we are continuing to enhance our support structures so that anyone seeking help has the opportunity to access care whenever they are ready to take the first step toward lasting recovery.”

Dashboard data also showed that over-

dose response programs in Maryland distributed a record number of doses of naloxone, a medication used to reverse the effects of opioid overdoses. More than 440,000 doses of naloxone were distributed in 2025. Maryland set another annual record by distributing over 272,000 drug test strips.

Marylanders who are struggling with substance use or experiencing a behavioral health crisis are encouraged to call or text 9-8-8, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, to speak with someone who can help. The 9-8-8 locator tool, <https://search.988.mdinonet.org/>, is designed to help individuals identify and locate a variety of treatment options within their geographic areas.

“Every Marylander can be an important part of our efforts to reduce overdoses,” said Maryland Special Secretary of Overdose Response Emily Keller. “Every year, hundreds of lives are saved by everyday people who thankfully know what to do in a crisis. I encourage everyone to learn how to recognize the signs of an overdose and how to administer the overdose reversal medication naloxone. We can all save a life, and we can all make a difference.”

The data on the Overdose Data Dashboard is preliminary; counts may increase pending the outcome of outstanding death investigations. Learn more about how to respond to an overdose and where to find naloxone at StopOverdose.maryland.gov/naloxone.



**APPLICATION
WINDOW OPEN
FEB 2 - MARCH 2**

CALLING ALL FUTURE EMTs AND FIREFIGHTERS!

The Baltimore County Emergency Services Training (EST) Program Returns – Fall 2026!

Program Benefits:

- EMT and/or Firefighter Certification
- No Cost to Students
- Potential Internship Credit

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a High School Junior or Senior by Fall 2026
- Reliable transportation required



Register and Learn More:
www.bcvfa.org/est

Questions? Email at est@bcvfa.org

Register above to be the first considered for this incredible opportunity presented by The Baltimore County Fire Department

Prince George's County STEMI Improvement Initiative



White Oak Medical Center (Adventist HealthCare) Catheterization Lab. [Photos: Office of Care Integration]

EMS Leading the System

Prince George's County Fire and EMS leadership recently led a county-based STEMI improvement initiative focused on strengthening how EMS and hospitals work together. As part of this effort, Prince George's County Fire and EMS leaders met directly with teams at Anne Arundel Medical Center (Luminis Health), White Oak Medical Center (Adventist HealthCare), Southern Maryland Hospital Center (MedStar), and Capital Region Medical Center (University of Maryland). These visits were collaborative working sessions designed to align expectations, improve communication, and reduce delays for STEMI patients.

Why This Matters

Everything starts with EMS. Early symptom recognition, early ECG acquisition and transmission, and relevant communication from the field directly impact patient survival and recovery. These visits reinforce that beyond patient transport, EMS serve as critical clinical partners in the cardiac system of care.

Prince George's County EMS Leads Regional Push to Improve STEMI Care



Capital Region Medical Center (University of Maryland).



White Oak Medical Center (Adventist HealthCare) Emergency Department.



Southern Maryland Hospital Center (MedStar).



Anne Arundel Medical Center (Luminis Health).

County fire and EMS leaders met with four hospital systems to strengthen communication, align expectations, and reduce treatment delays for cardiac patients.

Want to do more to keep children safe?

Become a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (“CPST”)!

As a CPST you could:

- Check child safety seats for proper use.
- Educate and help parents install their safety seats.
- Provide community education & training on child passenger safety.
- Attend free periodic update courses & training opportunities.

About the CPST certification course:

- usually 4 – 4 ½ days long
- combines classroom instruction, hands-on work with car seats and vehicles
- has a community safety seat check-up event at the end
- includes open-book quizzes and skills tests
- costs \$95 to register **
- confers CPST status for 2 years

2026 Maryland Courses:

Montgomery County:	March 9, 10, 16, 19
Prince Georges County:	March 27, 30, 31, April 1, 2
Charles County:	May 8, 11, 12, 13, 14
Montgomery County:	May 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Washington County:	May 27, 29, June 1, 2, 3
Harford County:	June 10, 12, 16, 18, 20
Carroll County:	Sept 3, 4, 8, 9
Wicomico County:	Sept 14, 15, 17, 18, 19

For details and registration, go to cert.safekids.org, click on “Become a Tech,” and search on State: “MD,” though this national course can be taken anywhere.

A limited number of **free registrations are available for qualifying Maryland healthcare/EMS personnel; contact cps@miemss.org.



CPS for Children

Maryland Child Passenger Safety Hospital Project

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Updates

Upcoming Stop the Bleed / Train the Trainer Classes



Please consider partnering with R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in its mission to teach every person in Maryland the potentially lifesaving skills required to stop bleeding. If you are able to assist with teaching at any upcoming Stop the Bleed classes, or you are interested in signing up for a “Train the Trainer” class, please contact stcstopthebleed@umm.edu. (Extra support for larger classes (highlighted below) is particularly appreciated!) For further information, please contact Rachel Cockerham, NREMT, at (410) 328-2045 or Rachel.cockerham@umm.edu or Katie Meyers, EMT-B, at (410) 328-4042 or kmeyers@umm.edu.

Feb 18 (10:30 am – 11:30 am)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 2301 Davidsonville Road
 Gambrills, MD 21054

Feb 23 (6:00 pm – 7:00 pm)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 2700 Riva Road
 Annapolis, MD 21401

Feb 27 (Time TBD)
 Concrete General, Inc.
 2700 Turf Valley Road
 Ellicott City, MD 21042

Feb 19 (10:30 am – 11:30 am)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 221 Central Avenue East
 Edgewater, MD 21037

Feb 24 (1:00 pm – 2:00 pm)
 Public Class (T1S12)

Feb 28 (11:00 am – 12:00 pm)
 Wyman Park Community Association
 3641 Falls Road
 Baltimore, MD 21211

Feb 20 (9:00 am – 4:15 pm)
 Eastern Tech High School
 1100 Mace Avenue
 Essex, MD 21221

Feb 24 (10:30 am – 11:30 am)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 241 Peninsula Farm Road
 Arnold, MD 21012

Feb 28 (1:00 pm – 2:00 pm)
 Prince George’s County
 Memorial Library System
 6530 Adelphi Road
 Hyattsville, MD 20782

Feb 20 (10:30 am – 11:30 am)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 800 Stevenson Road
 Severn, MD 21144

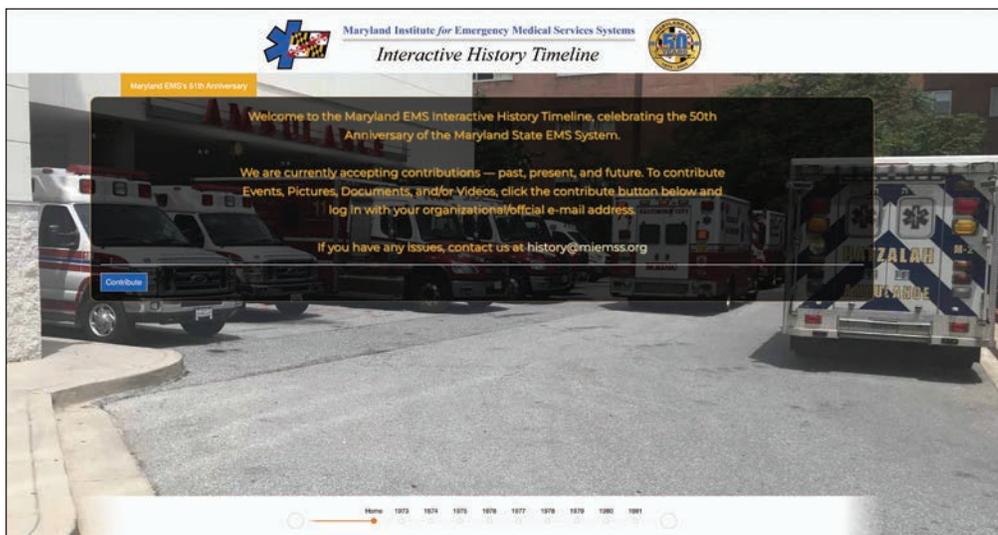
Feb 25 (6:00 pm – 7:00 pm)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 800 Stevenson Road,
 Severn, MD 21144

Shock Trauma Go-Team
 Representatives of the Shock Trauma Go-Team and its EMS Liaison group are always available to provide education on a local level.

Feb 21 (11:00 am – 12:00 pm)
 Central Christian Church
 7411 Rossville Blvd.
 White Marsh, MD 21237

Feb 26 (6:00 pm – 7:00 pm)
 Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 (Transportation)
 60 Robinson Road
 Severna Park 21146

Please reach out to STCEMS@umm.edu if you would like to schedule an educational presentation.



Make History with MIEMSS

We are currently accepting contributions — past, present, and future. To contribute Events, Pictures, Documents, and/or Videos, visit the website below or scan the QR code and log in with your organizational/official e-mail address.

Maryland EMS History Timeline
 (history.miemss.org)



WINTERFEST 2026



EACH YEAR, the Winterfest EMS Conference draws prehospital clinicians and other emergency services personnel from across Maryland's Eastern Shore and around the state for a weekend of didactic and hands-on continuing education. In addition to these valuable learning opportunities, Winterfest EMS offers attendees a warm, casual forum in which to network with friends and colleagues. Easton High School and Chesapeake College played host to the 28th annual Winterfest EMS Conference, held January 30 – February 1, 2026.



Winterfest 2026 Highlights

Take a look inside the 2026 Winterfest EMS Conference, where clinicians and emergency services professionals from across the state of Maryland come together for hands-on training, expert-led sessions, and real-world skill building. This annual event brings EMS clinicians face-to-face with the latest in prehospital care, fostering collaboration, sharpening clinical readiness, and strengthening the region's emergency response system.

Scan the QR code to view highlights of Winterfest 2026.

WINTERFEST 2026

Pre-Conference Programming

The S.T.A.B.L.E. Program

S.T.A.B.L.E. IS A NEONATAL EDUCATION PROGRAM focusing exclusively on the post-resuscitation / pre-transport stabilization care of sick infants. Laura Selway, a clinical nurse specialist with The Johns Hopkins Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, led this daylong instruction, designed to reduce infant mortality and morbidity, at Chesapeake College's Health Professions and Athletics Center. Learn more about the S.T.A.B.L.E. Program at <https://stableprogram.org/> or scan the QR code.



S.T.A.B.L.E. Program Highlights

This short highlights the S.T.A.B.L.E. Program, a specialized neonatal training course focused on post-resuscitation and pre-transport care for sick infants. Filmed during the 2026 Winterfest EMS Conference, the video showcases Maryland EMS for Children faculty leading hands-on instruction designed to strengthen clinical readiness and improve outcomes for the region's most vulnerable patients. It's a look at how focused, high-impact education helps EMS clinicians deliver safer, more confident neonatal care.

Scan the QR code to view highlights of S.T.A.B.L.E.

WINTERFEST 2026

Pre-Conference Programming

Mobile Integrated Health (MIH)

MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH (MIH) has grown to become an increasingly vital component of community-based health care. This year's Winterfest EMS pre-conference programming at Chesapeake College included a timely and topical daylong forum in which MIH clinicians could connect with their counterparts from around the region and across the state, sharing best practices while exploring innovative approaches to patient care beyond the traditional 9-1-1 system.



MIH Program Highlights

This video offers a snapshot of the Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Pre-Conference Programming, including a symposium dedicated to MIH continuing education. Clinicians attending this program were able to learn about the important role they play in the state's MIH system and participate in panel discussions with MIEMMS personnel.

Scan the QR code to view MIH Program highlights.

Winterfest EMS Conference



Winterfest EMS allows state EMS leadership (including MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge) to share EMS system news, data, and emerging trends directly with their constituents.



Former Region IV EMS Medical Director Dr. Thomas Chiccone (who retired from his post effective December 31, 2025) discussed the resurgence of diseases like measles, declining vaccination rates, and disagreements on patient management.



State EMS Medical Director Dr. Timothy Chizmar walked Winterfest EMS attendees through low- and high-tech patient care in cases involving submersion.



Maryland EMS for Children (EMSC) program director Cyndy Wright-Johnson drew attention to telltale signs of child abuse for EMS field clinicians.



Dr. Thomas Chiccone (third from left) was honored for his decades of service and dedication to the delivery of high-quality EMS care – including 15 years as Region IV EMS Medical Director, 18 years as Jurisdictional EMS Medical Director for Talbot County Department of Emergency Services, and 15 years as Medical Director of the Chesapeake College EMS Program – on January 31 in Easton.

Those present included (from left) MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge, Dr. Eric Klotz (who succeeded Chiccone as Jurisdictional EMS Medical Director for Talbot County DES), and State EMS Medical Director Dr. Timothy Chizmar.

2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR 13-14

MILTENBERGER EMERGENCY SERVICES SEMINAR
(Rocky Gap Casino Resort)
<https://www.miltenbergerseminar.com/>

APRIL 19-21

LIFESAVERS CONFERENCE ON ROADWAY SAFETY
(Baltimore, MD)
<https://lifesaversconference.org/>

MAY 7-8

POINT/COUNTERPOINT CONFERENCE (Baltimore, MD)
<https://mdcot.com/point-counterpoint-2026/>

MAY 17-23

NATIONAL EMS WEEK
<https://emsweek.org>

MAY 26-29

MARYLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND
HOMELAND SECURITY SYMPOSIUM (Ocean City, MD)
<https://www.marylandema.org/2026-symposium.php>

JUNE 20-25

MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE
(Ocean City, MD)
<https://convention.msfa.org/>

Send EMS-related calendar events to ptandy@miemss.org for possible inclusion in a future issue of *Maryland EMS News*.

MSP Underwater Recovery Team



The Maryland State Police (MSP) Underwater Recovery Team (URT) recently held its first-ever dive school to modernize training and prepare future URT members for the demanding mission of underwater search and recovery. Six members from across MSP completed the training, earning their place on one of MSP's most elite operational teams.

Above, searchlights glow beneath the water's surface during a nighttime training exercise. *[Photo: Maryland State Police]*



Clockwise from top left: Members of the Maryland State Police Underwater Recovery Team; Two MSP Underwater Recovery Team trainees in SCUBA gear swim along the bottom of a pool during a training exercise; Multiple MSP Underwater Recovery Team trainees in SCUBA gear swim across the bottom of a pool during a training exercise. [Photos: Maryland State Police]

Cecil County EMS Deploys New LIFEPAK 35 Cardiac Monitors



Effective February 6, 2026, Cecil County Department of Emergency Services has officially placed LIFEPAK 35 cardiac monitors into service. The new units replace Cecil County’s aging LIFEPAK 15 monitors, which had reached the end of their serviceable life.

The LIFEPAK 35, manufactured by Stryker, introduces updated technology that enhances patient assessment and care, including improved monitoring capabilities, faster access to clinical data, and tools that support earlier decision-making in the field. Such investments in modern, reliable equipment help to ensure that Cecil County EMS clinicians are able to deliver high-quality prehospital care when it matters most.

Above: The LIFEPAK 35 cardiac monitors replace the agency’s aging LIFEPAK 15 units, which had reached the end of their service life. [Photo: Cecil County DES]



Above: Cecil County EMS clinicians receive hands-on classroom training on use of the agency's new Stryker LIFEPAK 35 cardiac monitors. [Photo: Cecil County DES]

Left: Cecil County EMS clinicians display one of the agency's new Stryker LIFEPAK 35 cardiac monitors. [Photo: Cecil County DES]

Stryker's LIFEPAK 35 units replace aging equipment with faster data access and enhanced field diagnostics

Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS App for iOS & Android

The Maryland Medical Protocols

View Full Protocol Book
Navigate Protocol List

NAVIGATE INDIVIDUAL PROTOCOLS WITH COLLAPSIBLE CATEGORIES

- 2024 MD Medical Protocols
 - (03.1-3.12) Treatment Protocols - Cardiac
 - (04.1-4.15) Treatment Protocols - Medical
 - (05.1-5.6) Treatment Protocols - Otolaryngology / Gynecological
 - (06.1-6.8) Treatment Protocols - Respiratory
 - Asthma / COPD - Adult
 - Asthma / COPD - Pediatric
 - Chlorine / Phosgene Exposure
 - Congestive Heart Failure / Pulmonary Edema - Adult
 - Congestive Heart Failure / Pulmonary Edema - Pediatric
 - Croup
 - Pediatric Respiratory Distress for BLS - Universal Algorithm
 - Pediatric Respiratory Distress for ALS - Universal Algorithm
 - (07.1-7.10) Treatment Protocols - Toxicology and Environmental
 - (08.1-8.8) Treatment Protocols - Trauma and Burns

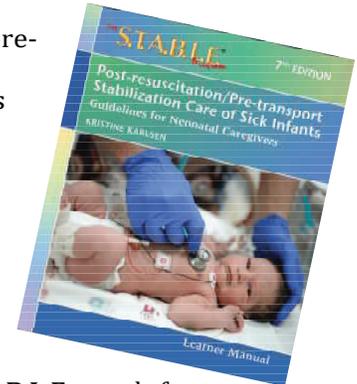
ALWAYS HAVE THE MOST UP TO DATE PROTOCOLS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



2026 EMSC Pre-Conferences S.T.A.B.L.E. Program

Course Overview:

When newborn infants become ill and require specialized care, each member of the healthcare team must know what to do in a timely and effective manner. S.T.A.B.L.E. is a neonatal education program focusing exclusively on the post-resuscitation/pre-transport stabilization care of sick infants. This early transitional care affects not only the infant’s immediate health, but the long-term outcome as well. Education in stabilization beyond resuscitation is critical to the mission of reducing infant mortality and morbidity.



Target Audience:

This course is designed for Healthcare Clinicians who care for newly born infants in the pre-hospital environment, Emergency Department and locations other than the NICU.

What is S.T.A.B.L.E.?

Based on a mnemonic to optimize learning, retention and recall of information, **S.T.A.B.L.E.** stands for the six assessment and care modules in the program: **S**ugar, **T**emperature, **A**irway, **B**lood pressure, **L**ab work, and **E**motional support. A 7th module, Quality Improvement, stresses communication and teamwork as well as the professional responsibility of evaluating care provided to sick infants, with the ultimate goal of improving future care.

Cost: will be set by the hosting EMS Regional Conference (Pre-Registration is required). Course cost includes conference location with breakfast & lunch. EMS for Children State Partnership Grant will provide the S.T.A.B.L.E. Program Learner Manual, 7th edition, access to S.T.A.B.L.E. Foundations Module (online pre course work) and handouts.

NEW with 7th edition: Each learner needs to complete the 2-hour S.T.A.B.L.E. foundations course prior to the in-person class day. In order to attend the in-person class, you must have completed the Foundations portion 72 hours prior and bring the certificate hard copy to the course. Cost will also be covered by MD EMSC.

**This workshop will have limited enrollment on a first come basis.
Register online at <https://www.miltenbergerseminar.com/>.**

<p>Winterfest EMS Conference 2026 Date: Friday- January 30, 2026 Time: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Location: Chesapeake College (Wye Mills Maryland)</p>	<p>Miltenberger Trauma & EMS Conference 2026 Date: Friday- March 13, 2026 Time: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Location: Rocky Gap Conference Center (Flintstone Maryland)</p>
--	---



	<p>This program is supported in part by the Maryland EMSC State Partnership Grant from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and by MIEMSS EMSC Department. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.</p>
--	---

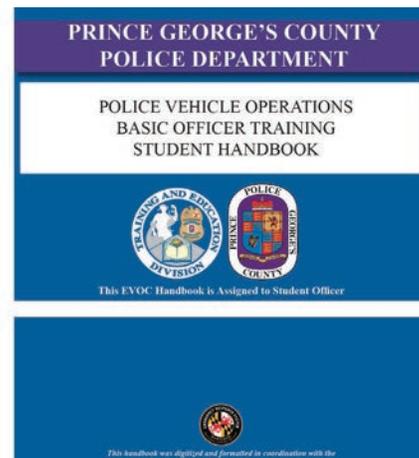
Modernizing EVOC Evaluations Through Digital Innovation

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (MDERS) assisted the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) in digitizing its Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) evaluation booklet, modernizing a critical component of recruit training within the PGPD Training Academy. The EVOC booklet, originally a 114-page paper document, outlined 10 separate vehicle courses that student officers are required to complete successfully in accordance with the standards established by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission (MPCTC). The paper-based format presented challenges related to efficiency, consistency, and long-term record management.

MDERS Operational Support staff worked in coordination with PGPD to streamline and redesign the evaluation booklet into a fully digital, fillable format. Through this effort, the booklet was reduced to 73 pages while maintaining all required MCPTC evaluation criteria. The digital format was specifically designed for use on MDERS-purchased tablets, enabling evaluators to complete assessments in real time during EVOC training evolutions. This approach mirrored the successful digitalization previously implemented for

the Patrol Scenario Training (PST) program, ensuring continuity and familiarity for training staff.

The digital EVOC evaluation booklet enhanced efficiency, reduced administrative burden, and improved the accuracy and accessibility of training records. By transitioning from a paper-based system to a tablet-enabled platform, PGPD strengthened its ability to track student performance, standardize evaluations, and support data-driven training decisions. This project reflects MDERS's continued commitment to leveraging technology to support regional law enforcement training, improve operational effectiveness, and align academy processes with modern instructional and documentation practices.



Guidance and Tools Available to Support EMS and 9-1-1 Implementation of Prehospital Blood Transfusion Programs

AS A GROWING NUMBER of EMS agencies and 9-1-1 partners across the nation implement prehospital blood transfusion programs, EMS industry associations are offering evidence-based guidance and tools to support program planning, development, and compliance.

The Prehospital Blood Transfusion Coalition (<https://prehospitaltransfusion.org/>) has released guidelines that provide clinical and operational considerations to support the safe delivery of blood in the prehospital setting. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Office of EMS Fall 2025 EMS Focus Webinar, "Where Do We Start? Prehospital Blood Transfusion Guidelines", featured Dr. Matthew Levy, lead author of the Coalition's guidelines. The webinar and supplementary materials are available at <https://www.ems.gov/resources/webinars/2025/where-do-we-start-prehospital-blood-transfusion-guidelines-a-special-session-with-the-prehospital-blood-coalition/>.

Elsewhere, the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) has released resources to support state and local policy considerations, patient care documentation, and National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) data collection, including:

- Prehospital Transfusion of Whole Blood and Blood Products: Considerations for State Officials
- NASEMSO Blood Product Administration Documentation (v2)

Prehospital blood transfusion improves outcomes for patients with severe bleeding, including those injured in motor vehicle crashes. EMS and 9-1-1 leaders are encouraged to review and share these resources with their partners involved in post-crash care.

Learn more about prehospital blood and post-crash care at [EMS.gov](https://www.ems.gov).



ACS Maryland Committee on Trauma Point Counterpoint XLIII 2026

Don't miss the annual
Point/Counterpoint conference!



May 7-8, 2026



Renaissance Baltimore
Harborplace Hotel
202 East Pratt Street

Discover the latest breakthroughs in trauma, emergency general surgery, and acute care at this dynamic two-day event!

- **Engaging Format:** Pro/con debates, panel discussions, and interactive breakout sessions
- **Cutting-Edge Topics:** Explore state-of-the-art management strategies and tackle today's most controversial issues
- **Tailored Content:** Afternoon breakout sessions on trending topics designed for nurses, APPs, and physicians

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with experts, challenge your thinking, and enhance your skills!

Keynote Speakers



Ellen MacKenzie, PhD
Charles C. Wolferth, Jr., MD,
Memorial Lecture
"Ensuring a Quality Recovery Post-Trauma"



Adil H. Haider, MD, MPH, FACS
Sharon M. Henry Maryland
COT State-of-the-Art Lecture
"AI as a Force for Good: Our Moment to Lead as Acute Care Surgeons"



To register scan or visit:
mdcot.com

2026 Mid-Atlantic Transport Conference

February 26-27 | Maritime Conference Center | Linthicum Heights

PLEASE JOIN Johns Hopkins Lifeline and the James J. Scheulen Center for Transport and Resuscitative Medicine on February 26-27 at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum Heights for the 2026 Mid-Atlantic Transport Conference. Designed for both EMS and Critical Care transport teams, this two-day event features hands-on pre-conference workshops, a full day of conference sessions, a vendor exhibit area, and plenty of networking opportunities with peers and colleagues. (MIEMSS & ASTNA CEUs available for both pre-conference workshops and main conference sessions.) For more information (including conference agenda) or to register, go to eventbrite.com/e/2026-mid-atlantic-transport-conference-registration-1342223670129 or scan the QR code.



Designed for both EMS and Critical Care transport teams, the two-day Mid-Atlantic Transport Conference features hands-on pre-conference workshops, a full day of conference sessions, a vendor exhibit area, and plenty of networking opportunities with peers and colleagues.

SCAN ME!



National Fire Service Staff & Command Course

REGISTER TODAY!
 March 1-6, 2026 | Annapolis, MD

**NATIONAL
 FIRE SERVICE
 STAFF & COMMAND
 COURSE**

presented by
 the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute,
 University of Maryland
 in cooperation with
 The International Association of Fire Chiefs

www.mfri.org/sac

JOIN FELLOW senior administrative personnel, chief officers, and senior company-level officers for Staff & Command, March 1-6, 2026, in Annapolis, Maryland.

Over five days, the nation's top emergency services experts will address current and emerging issues facing first responder leadership. Drawing participants from across the country, the Staff & Command Course also fosters an invaluable opportunity for networking with fellow fire colleagues.

Register at www.mfri.org/sac or scan the QR code.

SCAN ME!



