

State Aeromedical Director Among Four MSP Staff Members Honored for Whole Blood Implementation

ON MAY 24, 2024, six staff from the Maryland Department of State Police received awards for their heroism, outstanding service and efforts to promote safety at the annual State Employees Risk Management Administration (SERMA) 2024 Conference.

Maryland State Police Aviation Command (MSPAC) Flight Paramedics First Sergeant David Svites and Sergeant Joshua Heins, Corporal Kristie Peterson, and State Aeromedical Director Dr. Douglas Floccare received the Award of Heroism for their work in implementing the Whole Blood Program.

Since its inception in Maryland on May 10, 2023, the Whole Blood Program has allowed for 122 units of whole blood to be administered to 101 patients. Whole blood is used to treat the most critically injured during transport on the AW139 helicopters.

Department Risk Manager Margaret Michel received The Linda Brooks Memorial Award for outstanding performance and commitment to risk management and occupational safety. She has worked tirelessly throughout her 19-year career to ensure that all state employees receive up-to-date information on occupa-



From left: First Sergeant David Svites, Margaret Michel, State Aeromedical Director Dr. Douglas Floccare, Sergeant Joshua Heins, and Amy Hager. [Photo: Maryland State Police]

tional safety.

Forensic Photography Supervisor Amy Hager received the Individual Achievement Award for raising awareness on employee safety. She photographed, designed, edited and collaborated on numerous campaign projects to enhance the health and safety of all state employees.

“The contributions that our sworn

and civilian personnel have made to ensure the safety of our workforce and implement lifesaving programs is immeasurable,” said Maryland State Police Aviation Commander Major Michael Tagliaferri. “The Department is truly grateful to have people like them among the ranks of Maryland’s Finest.” ■

CALENDAR

JUNE

■ **2:** *Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Annual Memorial Service.* Annapolis, MD.

■ **16-21:** *132nd Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention & Conference.* Convention Center, Ocean City, MD.

SEPTEMBER

■ **20:** *Topics in Trauma.* Tidal Health Peninsula Regional, Salisbury, MD.

OCTOBER

■ **26:** *R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Celebration.* France-Merrick Performing Arts Center, Baltimore, MD.

EMS News Digest

■ **Governor Moore Signs Significant Funding Bills Securing the Future of Trauma Care for Marylanders** (*UM Medical Center*). Dozens of Shock Trauma team members, trauma survivors, and supporters traveled to Annapolis on May 16 to support Maryland Governor Wes Moore, Senate President Bill Ferguson, and House Speaker Adrienne Jones as they signed a consequential bill into law expanding annual funding for Maryland's renowned statewide trauma system, ensuring access to world-class trauma care for Marylanders well into the future. Read more: <https://www.umms.org/ummc/news/2024/significant-funding-bills-secure-the-future-of-trauma-care-for-marylanders>

■ **Talbot County Becomes Stroke Smart County Thanks to Work of UM SRH Stroke Committee** (*UM Shore Regional Health*). Thanks to the hard work of UM Shore Regional Health's (UM SRH) Primary Stroke Center leadership, the Talbot County Council recently presented a procla-

mation to UM SRH Stroke Committee team members announcing Talbot County as a Stroke Smart County. UM SRH is a member organization of the University of Maryland Medical System. Read more: <https://www.umms.org/shore/news/2024/talbot-county-becomes-stroke-smart-county-thanks-to-work-of-um-srh-stroke-committee>

■ **How to Recognize, Help a Struggling Team Member** (*EMSI*). Many EMS/public safety team members are adept at concealing their internal struggle, especially in its early stages. The affected team member, as well as their peers, may dismiss the occasional signs and uncharacteristic behavior as simply a bad call, day or week. But, without resolution, these changes will persist and become obvious patterns and trends. Learn how you can identify and aid team members facing depression, burnout, or compassion fatigue to foster an emotionally safe organizational environment. Read more: <https://www.emsl.com/emstrend-report/how-to-recognize-help-a-struggling-team-member>. ■

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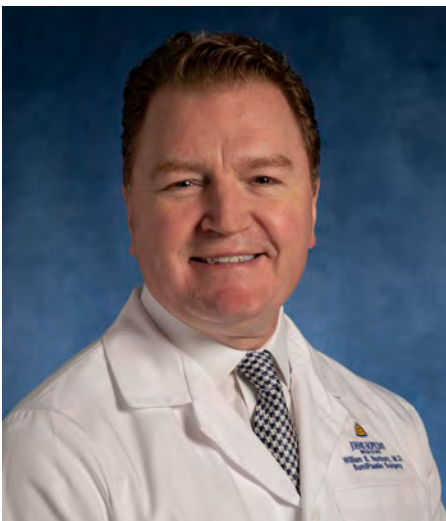
Ochsenschlager Receives Inaugural EMSC Lifetime Achievement Award

EACH YEAR, the Wednesday of EMS Week is designated EMS for Children (EMSC) Day, highlighting the unique needs of pediatric patients and their families. As part of this year's celebration marking the 40th anniversary of EMSC at the national level, the Maryland EMSC program presented its inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award to Daniel Ochsenschlager, MD, FAAP, in recognition of his more than 50-year career to improving emergency care for children in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and across the nation, as well as the commitment, compassion, and wisdom he has demonstrated in guiding Maryland EMSC through the decades. ■



From left: MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge; Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders; Dr. Daniel Ochsenschlager; and Maryland EMSC Program Director Cyndy Wright Johnson.

Norbury Joins the Johns Hopkins Adult Burn Center



William Norbury, MD, FRCS (Plast)
Johns Hopkins Adult Burn Center

WILLIAM NORBURY, MD, FRCS (PLAST), has joined the Johns Hopkins Adult Burn Center, bringing years of experience as an expert in the surgical reconstruction of severe burns. His additional areas of clinical expertise include microsurgical reconstruction and laser attenuation of scar tissue.

Dr. Norbury received a Bachelor of Medicine degree from St. Bartholomew's and the Royal London Hospital Medical College. He obtained a Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons postgraduate diploma at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 2003, and completed a Royal College of Surgeons

fellowship in plastic surgery in 2012.

In addition, Dr. Norbury completed a fellowship in the therapeutic use of lasers in the United Kingdom, as well as fellowships in reconstructive burn surgery and surgical critical care at the University of Texas Medical Branch and Shriners Children's Texas. He also completed a three-year fellowship in burn care research, focused on attenuation of the hypermetabolic response following severe burns, at Shriners Children's Texas.

More information about Dr. Norbury can be found at hopkinsmedicine.org/William-Norbury. ■

Point Counterpoint XLI

May 2-3, 2024 | Baltimore Marriott, Inner Harbor at Camden Yards | Baltimore, MD

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS POINT COUNTERPOINT conference is an annual two-day program that draws physicians, nurses, and advanced practice professionals from around the region and across the country to discuss relevant issues in trauma, emergency general surgery, and acute care. The program's format, which includes, pro/con debates, panel discussions, and breakout sessions, allows for critical analyses of the current body of evidence through interaction between the moderators, presenters, and meeting participants. This year's topics included, among others, TXA, managing traumatic spinal injuries, global surgery, and the use of epinephrine. Learn more at <https://mdcot.com/point-counterpoint-xli-2024/>. ■



Bethany Strong, MD, MS, discussed the benefits of hospital-based violence intervention programs for trauma survivors as part of the "Predictions and Wishful Thinking" plenary session moderated by Babak Sarani, MD, FACS.



This year's Charles C. Wolfert, Jr., MD, Memorial Lecturer, Nicholas Namias, MD, MBA, FACS, FCCM, FSIS, (pictured here, at right, with R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Physician-in-Chief Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS, MCCM) focused on life-saving interventions.



Point Counterpoint, by design, invites and encourages active engagement between presenters and participants.



US Army COL Jennifer M. Gurney, MD, FACS, (pictured here, at left, with Point Counterpoint Planning Committee Chair Sharon M. Henry, MD, FACS) discussed the use of whole blood during her Sharon M. Henry Maryland COT State-of-the-Art Lecture.

Maryland Highway Safety Summit

May 13, 2024 | Hilton Baltimore BWI Hotel | Linthicum Heights, MD

THE MARYLAND HIGHWAY SAFETY SUMMIT is an annual one-day event that convenes safety leaders and stakeholders in Maryland who are working together to reach the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2030. The event highlights Maryland's collaborative approach to bringing together federal, state, and local partners. Learn more at <https://zerodeathsmd.gov/highway-safety-office/highway-safety-summit/>. ■



Funded by the Maryland Highway Safety Office and administered by the EMS for Children (EMSC) Program and Safe Kids Maryland, the Bike Safety Project focuses on bike helmet safety and correct helmet use with the goal of reducing the number of significant head injury deaths in Maryland due to bike crashes.



Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, a civil engineer and former state delegate, welcomed attendees to the 2024 Maryland Highway Safety Summit.



"Communication doesn't happen when you speak, it happens when they hear." Keynote speaker Eric Bailey of the Arizona-based Bailey Strategic Innovation Group discussed "The Cure for Stupidity: Using Brain Science to Explain Irrational Behavior".



This display, courtesy of EMSC's Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care Project, seeks to raise awareness and prevention of pediatric vehicular heatstroke by demonstrating how quickly the inside of a car heats up relative to outdoor temperature. Learn more at <https://www.miemss.org/home/emsc/cps>.

National Stop the Bleed Day

May 23, 2024 | Baltimore Peninsula | Baltimore, MD

THE MARYLAND COMMITTEE ON TRAUMA hosted National Stop the Bleed Day 2024 on May 23 at Baltimore Peninsula in Baltimore, MD. The free daylong program offered Marylanders an opportunity to learn life-saving techniques for bleeding control. Participating entities included The Johns Hopkins Hospital; Meritus Health; UM Capital Region Medical Center; Johns Hopkins Children's Center; Sinai Hospital; Children's National Medical Center; UM R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center; Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center; UPMC-Western Maryland; Suburban Hospital; and TidalHealth. Learn more at <https://mdcot.com/stop-the-bleed>. ■



Maryland Emergency Management and Homeland Security Annual Symposium

May 28-31, 2024 | Ashore Resort & Beach Club | Ocean City, MD

THE MARYLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (MDEMA) Emergency Management and Homeland Security Annual Symposium is one of the premier events in the field of Maryland emergency management, drawing professionals from all levels of government (including MIEMSS), the private sector, and non-governmental agencies. From hands-on training opportunities and vendor exhibitions showcasing cutting-edge technologies to forums for critical information sharing and collaboration, this multi-day symposium offers those involved in the field of emergency management many opportunities for education, networking, and collaboration. Learn more at marylandema.org. ■



Programming topics included storm response and recovery, the use of drone technology and artificial intelligence in emergency management, and mapping of the state's dams for increased awareness, among others.



Keynote speaker Jason Lando, Chief of Police for the City of Frederick, Maryland, and former Pittsburgh Police Commander, discussed his experience as Incident Commander during the 2018 shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue.



The Symposium closed with a discussion of the ongoing multi-agency response to and lessons learned from the March 2024 collapse of Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge.



MIEMSS Emergency Preparedness Planner Michael F.X. O'Connell mans the Maryland Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Work Group booth.

The 2024 Maryland EMS Awards

EACH YEAR, MIEMSS celebrates EMS Week by honoring men and women across Maryland who have contributed to the EMS system. The 2024 Maryland EMS Awards recognize specific individuals, agencies, and incidents occurring between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2024. The EMS Awards are comprised of two main categories – the Maryland Stars of Life Awards, for adults, and the Right

Care When It Counts Awards, which recognizes children and youth in Maryland who have demonstrated steps to take in or ways to be better prepared for an emergency.

This year's honorees were nominated by peers or members of the public, and selected by a statewide committee consisting of career, volunteer, and commercial EMS clinicians. Executive Director Dr.

Ted Debridge led a delegation from MIEMSS that traveled to locales around the state to present this year's awards. State EMS Medical Director Dr. Timothy Chizmar, Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders, and Cyndy Wright-Johnson, Director of the EMS for Children program at MIEMSS, participated in several presentations. ■



THE MARYLAND EMS CITIZEN AWARD

This award recognizes citizen-rescuers who have demonstrated quick thinking, fast action, and heroism in a trauma or medical emergency. This year's award is presented to an individual for intervening to help save a stranger in distress.

Emily Macdonald

ON JUNE 1, 2023, while driving home from work, Emily Macdonald noticed a man lying on the sidewalk with an edge trimmer lying across his body. Recognizing the patient was in distress, she immediately pulled over and assisted the patient's wife in removing the trimmer from her husband. Emily noted that the man was unresponsive, and his breathing labored, so she called 9-1-1. Drawing upon her CPR training, Emily initiated chest compressions and continued to monitor the patient's condition until the arrival of the units from the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Squad. EMS defibrillated the patient three times and prepared him for transport to Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center, where ED staff stabilized the man and transferred him to the cardiac catheterization lab and ICU, from which he was discharged on June 6 with a full recovery. ■



From left: Emily Macdonald and MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge.



THE MARYLAND EMS-GERIATRIC AWARD

This award recognizes an EMS clinician who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in the state; examples include, but are not limited to, the areas of quality assurance, public or EMS education, prevention, delivery of EMS services, and new technologies.

Avital Graves, MBA, MHA, NRP

Montgomery County Mobile Integrated Health Program Manager

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH PROGRAM (MIH) works in collaboration with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, local hospitals, and other partners to identify frequent users of the 9-1-1 system. This includes patients, referred by EMS field clinicians or hospital partners, who may be experiencing unmet needs and requiring resources outside of the 9-1-1 system. Since 2021, the MIH Program has enrolled 951 patients, 700 of whom are over age 60.

MIH Program Manager Avital Graves serves as the Liaison for Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service and handles all concerns from clinicians and inquiries from the Skilled Nursing Facility/Assisted Living Facility. This includes working closely with the Nexus Montgomery Skilled Nursing Facility Alliance to ensure awareness to policies/procedures, inform decision-making and share pilot initiatives. Avital Co-Chairs the HEALTH Partners collaborative and works to bring together several community partners, residential groups, and county agencies to provide proactive care to aging seniors and keep them free from traveling in ambulances and spending time in emergency departments.

As if she hasn't accomplished enough, Avital is a representative on the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Taskforce where she participates in discussing and planning recourse for egregious cases of neglect and abuse, alongside Adult Protective Services, Montgomery County Police, the Department of Aging and Disability, and the State's Attorney's Office. The work emphasizes the EMS aspect, as she helps clinicians understand Adult Protective Services and their role in prevention and reporting.



From left: Montgomery County MIH Program Manager Avital Graves and MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge.

Bringing MIH and EMS together, Avital was able to lead the MIH program to focus on increasing EMS referrals to Adult Protective Services by increasing awareness through informational posters placed at every fire station and places where EMS clinicians congregate.

Avital is clearly dedicated to providing exceptional care to the geriatric population of Montgomery County as she works tirelessly to educate clinicians and develop and implement programs that benefit our vulnerable geriatric population. ■



THE MARYLAND STAR OF LIFE AWARD

This award recognizes an individual, multiple individuals, or teams on the same incident for an outstanding rescue under extreme circumstances by EMS personnel.



From left: Battalion Chief Chase Fabrizio; Master FF Douglas Wallace; FF Joseph Hetrick; FF/Paramedic Timothy Hackett; FF/Paramedic Evan Kinsley; Captain Patrick Dillon; and MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge. Not pictured: Captain Jason Masters; FF Marcus Nejad; FF Brandon Mullins; Asst. Chief John Dimitriadis; Captain Brett Livingston; Master FF Charlie Appleby; FF Dustin Becker; FF/Paramedic Brock Mathison; and Captain Michael Weimer.

*Montgomery County Paramedic Engine 708: **Captain Jason Masters, Master FF Douglas Wallace, FF Marcus Nejad, FF Paramedic Timothy Hackett;** Ambulance 708: **FF Joseph Hetrick, FF Brandon Mullins;** Advanced Life Support 708: **FF Paramedic Evan Kinsley;** Duty Chief 700: **Asst. Chief John Dimitriadis;** Paramedic Engine 734: **Captain Brett Livingston, Master FF Charlie Appleby, FF Dustin Becker, FF Paramedic Brock Mathison;** EMS Duty Officer 703: **Captain Patrick Dillon;** Battalion Chief 705: **Battalion Chief Chase Fabrizio;** Safety 700: **Captain Michael Weimer***

ON JANUARY 4, 2023, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Squad Ambulance 708 and Paramedic Engine 708 were dispatched to a residence in Montgomery Village, Maryland, for an unknown emergency. What was clearly understood, despite a language barrier, was “he is going to die.” When the responders arrived, a bystander at the scene said, “It is bad!”

With little to go on, the responders entered the home to find another bystander kneeling beside a person who was lying prone with a significant amount of blood around his body.

The responders observed another large pool of

blood several feet away, in the kitchen. As the responders rolled the patient onto his back to assess his injuries, they observed a deep, large laceration across the width of the patient's neck, exposing his lacerated trachea – an injury inflicted, as they would later learn, by a circular saw.

As the responders from Ambulance 708 and Paramedic Engine 708 took immediate lifesaving action, a second ALS clinician and Montgomery County Police, were called to the scene. Master FF Douglas Wallace and Captain Jason Masters managed the scene and equipment while Advanced Life Paramedic Evan Kinsley joined Paramedic Timothy Hackett, Firefighter Marcus Nejad, and Firefighter Joseph Hetrick in working to control the severe bleeding from the patient's neck.

As EMS worked to manage the bloody airway and intubate the patient, crews worked together to suction the copious blood while Kinsley established a viable airway by passing a bougie and a 7.0 endotracheal tube through the patient's lacerated and exposed trachea.

Paramedic Engine 734 arrived, and the crews worked together to continue managing the patient's airway and control the bleeding. They ventilated the

See STARS page 20



THE MARYLAND EMS CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes an EMS clinician who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in the state; examples include, but are not limited to, the areas of quality assurance, public or EMS education, prevention, delivery of EMS services, and new technologies.



From left: Cecil County Director of Emergency Services Wayne Tome, Sr.; MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge; Cecil County DES Paramedic Erich Josef Goetz; and Cecil County DES Assistant Chief of Field Operations Stephen Cummins.

Erich Josef Goetz

Paramedic, Cecil County DES

ASK ERICH JOSEF GOETZ why he became a paramedic and he will describe the unsettled feeling he got early in his career when he could only stand by and watch others help in ways that he could not. As a volunteer firefighter with Hereford VFC in Baltimore County, Erich could only act as a passive observer while his EMT, EMR, and paramedic colleagues provided pre-hospital care. Erich became an EMR in 2012. However, this fell short of fulfilling his goal of helping people. Two years later, he advanced to EMT, though he felt that this, too, left a gap in his service to the community.

Finally, in 2018, Erich earned his EMT-P in Pennsylvania, and in Maryland very shortly after. To this role, Erich has brought compassion and professionalism to the benefit of his patients and fellow clinicians alike.

As a paramedic for Cecil County DES, his unwavering sense of curiosity and desire to always do more drive him to continually seek out new, more effective ways of delivering emergency medical services to the citizens of Maryland. His extensive research on EMS practices and protocols at both the state and national levels has led him to take an active role in helping to develop the protocols that guide Maryland's EMS clinicians in their work each and every day, such as the Nitro Infusion pilot protocol. However, Erich considers the opportunity to educate the next generation of EMS clinicians to be the crowning achievement of his career in EMS.

"While my Nitro protocol will certainly have an impact on a certain subset of patients," he explains, the ability to teach "good-quality values like compassion and kindness will affect all types of patients over the course of a clinician's entire career." ■



THE MARYLAND EMD CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes an EMS clinician who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in the state; examples include, but are not limited to, the areas of quality assurance, public or EMS education, prevention, delivery of EMS services, and new technologies.

Amy Alotta

Public Safety Emergency Communications Specialist 4, Montgomery County Emergency Communications Center

PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST 4 AMY ALOTTA consistently demonstrates her skill, commitment, and dedication as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher for the Montgomery County Emergency Communications Center. Amy possesses a concrete foundation of the protocol guidelines and includes rules and axioms. Amy, with a calm and professional demeanor, enhances her performance and ability to process calls from emotional and stressed 9-1-1 callers. Her call-taking quality assurance evaluations routinely reflect her approach, as she was recognized for maintaining outstanding Quality Assurance reviews in 2023.

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Squad recognized Amy for effectively providing CPR instructions to the family of a cardiac arrest patient on July 30 that led to saving the life of the patient, later discharged from the hospital with no neurological deficits.

As a communications training officer, Amy is supportive of her colleagues and has trained up-and-coming call-takers in everything from clinical knowledge to customer service. Recognizing that perspective is



From left: Montgomery County 9-1-1 Call Center Director Cassandra Onley (accepting on behalf of Amy Alotta) and MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge.

vital, she helps specialists-in-training grasp the importance of seeing a call through everyone's eyes, holding them to a standard of professionalism nothing short of that she requires of herself. ■

THE MARYLAND EMS-CHILDREN AWARD

This award is given to an adult or program that has demonstrated ongoing dedication and commitment to improving the care of children and for promoting family-centered care in a Maryland EMS program or hospital.

Ocean City Fire Department *for its Junior Firefighter Camp*

THE OCEAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT'S Junior Firefighter Camp is designed to teach children essential life-safety skills. Youths involved in the program range from the ages of 7 to 14. The camp introduces them to the world of firefighting and EMS in a safe and interactive environment. Staffed by Firefighters, Paramedics, EMTs, and two elementary school teachers, the camp provides children with the opportunity to ask questions, gain insights into the profession, and build positive connections.

Since its inception in 2020, the camp has hosted a total of 308 campers, exclusive of repeat participants. Because of the consistent return rate, a Senior Firefighter Camp was established in 2023, for children who have completed at least two summers of the Junior Firefighter Camp and who are interested in learning more advanced concepts, such as fire science. The Camp emphasizes hands-on learning experiences ranging from CPR and radio communication to use of firefighting equipment under the guidance of trained professionals and partnering agencies, such as Maryland State Police (MSP), Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Ocean City Police Department K-9, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and MSP Aviation



Clockwise from left: MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge; Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jen Anders; OCFD Deputy Fire Chief Chris Shaffer; OCFD Administrative Coordinator Christie Boden; OCFD Community & Department Engagement Officer Ryan Whittington; and Max, a support dog who attends the Junior Firefighter Camp.

Command. The Camp promotes teamwork and cooperation, essential skills in any emergency re-

sponse scenario, via group activities that encourage collaboration, communication, and support. ■



THE RIGHT CARE WHEN IT COUNTS AWARDS

The Right Care When It Counts Awards recognize children and youth in Maryland who have demonstrated the proper steps to take in an emergency, or who have developed ways in which to be better prepared for emergencies when they occur.



From left: MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge; Liam Rigney; Kaelyn White; Amanda Hill; Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders; and EMSC Program Director Cyndy Wright Johnson.

AMANDA HILL, KAELYN WHITE, AND LIAM RIGNEY are Leonardtown HS students in the Academy of Health Professions program at the Dr. James R. Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown. Amanda, who volunteers at the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad, has completed her EMT course and is currently working to earn her CAN through the Maryland Board of Nursing. Amanda is involved in SkillsUSA and, as an officer, went to regional, state, and national competitions; at the National Conference, she took home a gold medal in the First Aid/CPR

contest.

Kaelyn, too, volunteers with the rescue squad in Mechanicsville, where she earned her IV Technician Certification, and works as an apprentice at a local medical clinic. Kaelyn is also a nationally registered EMT (NREMT), and has earned her CNA from the Maryland Board of Nursing. She has competed in regional, state, and national EMT contests for SkillsUSA, where she won a bronze medal in the national competition.

Liam completed his EMT course during his junior and senior years at Leonardtown High School,

and has volunteered countless hours with Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad, where he regularly responds to calls. He worked to earn his CNA through the Maryland Board of Nursing and, during the summer of 2023, worked as a student intern in the ICU at Med-Star St. Mary's Hospital.

Last year, Amanda, Kaelyn, and Liam joined their Tech Center class in teaching hands-on CPR to the entire sixth-grade at Leonardtown Middle School, further cementing their status as role models for younger students. ■



From left: MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge, Jazmyn Murphy, and Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders.

JAZMYN MURPHY worked diligently to promote fire safety and EMS awareness throughout the Baltimore County region as the Baltimore County Fire Department's first-ever Junior Fire Chief. With her growth as an EMS advocate, 12-year-old Jazmyn fulfilled her duties by attending multiple events and making guest appearances, explaining the importance of awareness and prevention, and providing information about available resources. ■

TAHIRAH TAYLOR was at home with her mother on November 27, 2023, when the 10-year-old's mother developed sudden onset of weakness in her left arm. Thanks to her education, Tahirah recognized this as a symptom of a stroke and immediately contacted 9-1-1. Her quick thinking and action led to her mother's timely transport to the hospital, the right treatment, and a positive outcome. Tahirah's actions reflect Maryland's Stroke Smart State initiative, which educates Maryland citizens in how to "Spot a Stroke, Stop a Stroke, and Save a Life." ■



From left: MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Ted Delbridge; EMSC Program Director Cyndy Wright Johnson; Tahirah Taylor; and Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics Dr. Jennifer Anders.

Tuesday July 16, 10:00 am. – 11:00 am.

Fake, Foreign or **Fine**?

How to spot a knock-off car seat or verify a car seat's safety standards.

A Webinar for:

- Safety advocates
- Healthcare clinicians
- CPS

Speaker

Alisa Baer, MD, CPST/I,
Pediatrician & Co-Founder, The Car Seat Lady, LLC

Register Now:



This webinar is approved by Safe Kids World Wide for one CEU for CPSTs.

Questions?

Contact the Child Passenger Safety
Healthcare Project at
cps@miemss.org



**ZERO
DEATHS
MARYLAND**



Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's (MDOT MVA)

Maryland Highway Safety Office

The MDOT MVA Highway Safety Office (MHSO) is dedicated to saving lives and working with many partners across the State to reduce the number of crashes each year. In addition, the MHSO looks for ways to reduce crash severity and ways to treat crash victims easier and faster.

Maryland aims to reduce the number of crashes, and the resulting deaths and injuries, to zero by 2030.

2024 Maryland Highway Safety Summit

On Monday, May 13th, more than 300 highway safety professionals gathered for the 2024 Highway Safety Summit presented by the MVA's Highway Safety Office. The day was filled with insightful presentations and conversations about how all stakeholders involved can help us reach the state's goal of zero deaths on Maryland roadways. The event kicked off with a keynote address called "The Cure for Stupidity: Using Brain Science to Explain Irrational Behavior." During the address, Eric Bailey explained that there is always something left to learn, and it takes looking at problems with fresh perspectives to come up with new ideas to address them.

Later that morning, a panel discussed the emerging technology seen in transportation and what to expect in the future. Dr. Janet Bahouth walked attendees through a crash reconstruction to demonstrate how we can prevent future crashes using a multidisciplinary approach.

Attendees were able to engage with with 18 showcase partners, ranging from community organizations to private businesses to state and federal agencies—who provided information about their programs and services.

During the afternoon breakout sessions, attendees learned about a variety of topics, including Child Passenger Safety, Traffic Incident Management, Impaired Driving, Electric Vehicles, Work Zone Safety, and best practices in educating today's youth.

If you have an interest in highway safety, please reach out to the Maryland Highway Safety Office at MHSO@mdot.maryland.gov or visit ZeroDeathsMD.gov.

Get Ready to Click It or Ticket

There are a lot of poor excuses for not wearing a seat belt, you've probably heard them and maybe used one yourself:

"It takes too long,"

"It rubs my neck,"

"I'm only driving a short distance."

The truth is, it takes only three seconds to buckle your seat belt and though you may find it mildly irritating, it could save your life in a crash.

This also holds true for first responders, who have a responsibility not only to keep themselves and others safe on the road, but to set an example for the public to follow.

Unrestrained vehicle occupants become deadly projectiles in a crash, potentially injuring or killing other occupants or being ejected from the car.

There are no good excuses for not wearing a seat belt, but there is one really great reason to do so. Keep yourself and others safe in the car. Buckle up in every seat, on every ride.





Topics in Trauma



2024 Trauma Conference

September 20, 2024
TidalHealth Peninsula Regional
Salisbury, Md.

More information coming soon





MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

2024 MDERS Annual Symposium

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (MDERS) hosted its eighth annual symposium on May 1-2, 2024, bringing industry leaders and distinguished speakers together to discuss pertinent topics related to homeland security threats and response efforts. This year's symposium theme was "Adapting to Emerging Threats: Essentials Insights for Homeland Security and Public Safety Leaders". The two-day virtual event empowered our regional partners and national participants to grasp emerging and evolving threats affecting the homeland security enterprise.

The program began with a panel discussion on emerging technologies in homeland security. Dione "Dee" Neely moderated the conversation and was joined by Arlington County Fire Chief David Povlitz, Associate Chief of Strategic Technology for Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security (CISA) Dr. Garfield Jones, Maryland Department of Information Technology Director Netta Squires, Chief Operating Officer of Frontier Foundry Nick Reese, and the Commander of the Miami Police Department's Cyber Crimes Bureau Major George Perera. The panelists explored the impact of integrating the latest technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), to enhance various emergency response capabilities, address data security challenges, and highlight ethical considerations faced by organizations when using advanced technology. Symposium attendees posed a variety of questions to the panelists to facilitate discourse that embraced the overall use of technology as a pathway to opportunity and modernization. The breadth of this discus-



[Photo: MDERS]

sion supplied participants with lessons learned and best practices for shaping the future of first responder agencies harnessing and implementing innovative technologies into their response operations.

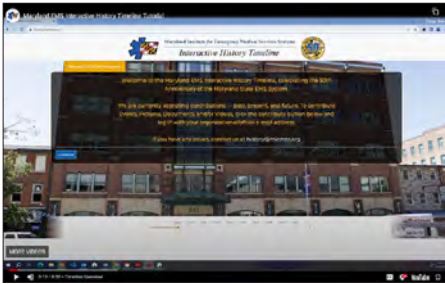
Day two of the program featured discipline-specific homeland security topics, such as mass casualty incident care involving patients with penetrating trauma, combating human trafficking, water infrastructure resilience, and the response to the devastating Hawaii wildfires in 2023. The morning started with a hospital case study presentation by Dr. Kevin Menes of Menes Resuscitation, LLC. Dr. Menes, based on his unique experience with the 2017 Las Vegas shooting, stressed the significance of mass casualty preparedness for all disciplines. Response efforts to a large-scale incident can quickly become complicated and Dr. Kevin Menes shared his insights on how to manage an influx of patients and provided recommendations on how to plan and prepare for a potential mass casualty incident.

The hospital case study was followed by a presentation on human trafficking, including child and sex trafficking crimes. The presenters, Sergeant Greg Flores and Detective Julia Tafesh of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD), discussed proactive investigation strategies implemented to arrest offenders and innovative approaches to reduce violent crimes associated with human trafficking. During the 2023 Formula 1 and Super Bowl, the pair analyzed how LVMPD's tactical investigation methods have contributed to a significant number of arrests and recovery of victims.

Next, David McDonough and Eric "Joey" Curtis from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) presented on adapting to an evolving climate. The pair analyzed the impact of climate change as a threat to water quality and steps agencies can take to plan, collaborate, mitigate, and

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Chairman, EMS Board:

Clay B. Stamp, NRP

Executive Director, MIEMSS:

Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH

Managing Editor:

Patrick Tandy (ptandy@miemss.org)

Design & Layout:

Patrick Tandy

Photography:

MIEMSS Media Services

(unless noted otherwise)



STARS...

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patient via bag valve, monitored end tidal and vital signs, established vascular access, administered TXA, and the patient was quickly transported to Johns Hopkins Suburban Hospital for additional evaluation and treatment. While the patient continues to receive treatment for his injuries, he was subsequently discharged home on January 30, 2023.

Captain Masters notes that the first two ALS clinicians on scene, despite a combined 2.5 years of experience in providing ALS care, rose to the challenge of a chaotic, tragic, and complex scene that “would have undoubtedly challenged the most senior ALS clinicians.” Indeed, the combined skills, seamless teamwork, and professionalism of the responding crews helped to yield a successful outcome. ■

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respond to the threat extreme weather poses to this critical infrastructure. Mr. McDonough and Mr. Curtis concluded their presentation with a case study about the correlation between climate change and water main breaks and the cascading effects these events have on our region.

Wrapping up the program, a panel discussion delved into the deployment and response strategies during the 2023 Hawaii wildfires. Dr. Brett Russell, Lieutenant Victor “Tony” Galladora, and Captain Jason Light from Maryland Task Force 1 (MD-TF1) provided insights into the formidable challenges they faced, and the coordinated efforts taken. They highlighted the critical deployment of specialized safety operations, medical resources, incident personnel, and search equipment, all aimed at mitigating the devastating impact of the wildfires. The panelists explored how MD-TF1 performed large-scale searches of collapsed structures and vehicles to identify missing persons, recover valuables, and inves-

tigate loss of life. The MD-TF1 was equipped with an experienced medical team consisting of physicians and paramedics who treated life-threatening injuries and illnesses caused by the wildfires. While operating for seven days to mitigate the impact of the wildfires, the panelist emphasized the importance of mental health treatment and peer support to help incident personnel transition back into their daily roles.

The symposium garnered positive feedback from those who participated in this year’s program. The featured topics were carefully curated to equip the MDERS stakeholder community and other first responders with information and tools that will aid them in their ability to respond to emerging and evolving threats. MDERS extends sincere gratitude to all speakers for their participation, Montgomery Community Media for broadcasting the event, and the MDERS staff that were involved in the planning and execution of this year’s program. MDERS is excited to begin planning for next year’s symposium, the ninth iteration of this successful series. ■