



Update from the Office of EMS

Volume XVII, Issue I

We have had a tough and emotional time in Alabama EMS recently. The loss of Haynes LifeFlight 2's crew has left a void that will never be filled. I did not personally know Chad Hammond or Stacey Cernadas, but I did know Jason Snipes from his brief work with a service in West Alabama. I can say that he truly wanted to do a good job and certainly cared about his patients. I have heard it reiterated numerous times that Chad and Stacey had the same type of compassion and commitment.

These three individuals' memories will live on in the hearts of their friends and coworkers. More important, I think, is that their memories will continue to live on in the hearts and lives of all of the patients they touched. They left their mark on EMS and their work and dedication will never be forgotten.

As I followed the memorials for these individuals, as well as numerous comments on social media, I can't help but feel touched by the sincere support that EMS personnel have provided to the families and coworkers of Chad, Stacey, and Jason. I am extremely proud to be part of the Alabama EMS system. We may sometimes disagree but we come together in times of need and I am proud of this.

Please continue to keep the families and coworkers of Chad Hammond, Stacey Cernadas, and Jason Snipes in your prayers. As always, keep up the good work and always keep the patient at the forefront of what you do. I am proud of the work you do and I am proud of the opportunity to serve as your State EMS Medical Director.

William E. Crawford, M.D.,FACEP
State EMS Medical Director
Alabama Dept. of Public Health
Office of EMS



Provider Service News

All Providers now expire on June 30, 2016 and the renewal period is April 1, 2016 until June 30, 2016. The OEMS has sent out postcards to the address on file reminding you to renew.

You may renew online at www.adph.org/ems click on the licensure link and you will see the option for the online renewal application and the printable type-written paper application that will need to be mailed to our office. Please remember if you submit your application by mail to include your plans and fee, (if transport service) along with the application. If you submit your application online the OEMS may request a copy of your plans be submitted. Any service that is carrying controlled substances must submit a controlled substance plan for approval with each application.

Your EMS Provider Service License EXPIRES on

June 30, 2016

Renew at

www.adph.org/ems

click on licensure link

**Applications must be received by May 1, 2016
to be processed prior to expiration.**

The online application will be available April 1, 2016.

If you have any questions please call our office at 334-206-5383



Continuing Medical Education Courses

As of January 1, 2016, there are three ways to obtain approval for continuing medical education for EMSP in the state of Alabama

- State of Alabama approved (through the Regional Office)
- Nationally recognized course (ACLS, PALS, etc.)
- CECBEMS approved

If you plan to teach any continuing medical education in Alabama you must complete the course approval process. This should be accomplished through your EMS Regional office. You must obtain an application to be completed and returned to the Regional office for approval.

If your course is approved, you will be issued a state approval number. This number must be printed on the certificate. If you submit a certificate without an appropriate approval number, the National Registry will reject your continuing medical education.

Alabama e-PCR Submission Requirements

Some e-PCR Points of Clarification:

1. It is a requirement to complete a patient care report on every emergency medical response. This office is already monitoring submission rates and comparative data suggests that many agencies are not reporting all runs as required. Please submit all required runs to avoid noncompliance.
2. Each record must be submitted electronically within 168 hours or less. The goal is to eventually narrow that down to within 24 hours. The 24 hour reporting allows Public Health to monitor surveillance trends as required by the Federal emergency preparedness guidelines.
3. Our IT staff is always available to assist you with your e-PCR needs. If you need assistance, you may call Chris or Lori at 334-206- 5383. You may get a voice recording depending on the call volume. They will eventually get back to you. If you do not hear from the within a reasonable time, you may wish to [email](#) them.
4. Collecting and importing data is paramount only to reporting reliable data. Reliable data is accurate and contains no errors. When one looks for shortcuts and/or skips data entry in areas that has been discovered to have no validation rules, it dilutes the integrity of the data, not to mention falsifies a legal document. Please make sure you enter data accurately.



Licensure and Education Information

- All EMS students must be licensed by the State of Alabama at the previous level.
- Please remember the requirements as stated in the EMS Rules document under **420-2-1-.11 Licensed Provider Service Staffing**. License Provider Services shall not allow EMSP to respond to a medical emergency with the intent to treat or transport a patient unless the EMSP are clean and appropriately dressed and wearing photo identification with the level of license, license number, and name of EMSP visible. The photo identification shall be displayed at all times unless extenuating circumstances prevent the photo identification from being available.

Ambulance Driver Qualifications

The requirements for all ambulance drivers are: a valid drivers' license, a current EVOC from an approved EMS course, a current approved CPR course, and a certificate of completion of an approved Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course, or be a previously licensed EMSP. All EMSPs who drive an ambulance must maintain an initial approved EVOC course and a refresher every two (2) years. Alabama EVOC is still a requirement; you **MUST** have a current EVOC certificate in your personnel file.

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Course

The following are approved EMR Courses:

- EMS approved courses offered through your regional office, or
- A course approved by the Alabama Fire College which includes the Emergency Care Provider Course.

General Information

Do You Have Questions for OEMS Staff?

This is another reminder to those of you calling our office (334) 206-5383:

Complaints, Investigations, and Inspections —Call Vickie Turner

Provider Service Licenses—Call Stephen Wilson or Kembley Thomas

Individual Licenses—Call Stephen Wilson or Stephanie Smith

Individual Training or Testing—Call Stephen Wilson

EMS for Children, Website, and Social Media—Call Katherine Dixon Hert

Requests for Information from Regional Offices

The Office of EMS would like to request that you comply with any request for information from your regional office. Some Directors are still having issues receiving information and data as requested by the State office. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation and compliance.

Newsletter Reminder

The newsletter is free to anyone as long as they have internet access to our web page (www.adph.org/ems). The newsletters can be found on the Newsletter page which is linked to the home page. All Alabama licensed EMSPs who have a **VALID** email address will receive notice when the newsletter has been published. Our licensure database is used to store your last submitted valid email address, but cannot accommodate unlicensed people. They will have to visit our website to view or download the newsletter.

If you are not getting our newsletter announcements via email, it is because your email address was illegible or in an incorrect format or you have changed it and not updated your information with our office. You can email any changes via emsinquiry@adph.state.al.us or call office staff at (334) 206-5383.





Compliance Issues			
Name	Rule/Protocol	Complaint	Action Taken
Jennifer L. Bryan EMSP-Basic #1200527	420-2-1-.30	Guilty of Misconduct	Suspension
Derrick D. Burns EMSP-Basic #0501038	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension
Mark A. Calegari EMSP-Paramedic #0200813	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension
Edgar L. Calloway, Jr. EMSP-Paramedic #8629203	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension
Brantley C. Greene EMSP-Basic #9700226	420-2-1-.30	Exceeding Scope of Practice	Suspension
Jeffery Hyde EMSP-Paramedic #0300791	420-2-1-.25	Patient Care Issue	Suspension
Tavia T. Mounce EMSP-Basic #1500615	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension

Compliance Issues continued

Name	Rule/Protocol	Complaint	Action Taken
Chester L. Odom EMSP-Basic #0900176	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension
Mitchell Smith EMSP-Basic #1100293	420-2-1-.30	Guilty of Misconduct	Probation
Holden A. Tidmore EMSP-Advanced #1400463	420-2-1-.29	Impaired EMSP	Suspension



Remembering Haynes LifeFlight 2 Crew

Shortly after midnight on Saturday March 26, Haynes Life Flight 2 crashed into a rural wooded area in Coffee County. The crash killed all 3 crew members and the patient on board. This crash sent a wave of shock, not only throughout our Alabama based company, but our colleagues in the state and industry wide. We are a family and know we not only lost coworkers and peers but also some of our family members. The Office of EMS has extended the invitation to share a few words about Flight Nurse Stacey Cernadas, Flight Paramedic Jason Snipes and Metro Aviation Pilot Chad Hammond.

Stacey came to Haynes Life Flight determined to be a Flight Nurse and accomplish the goal of flying as a nurse. Stacey was not a rookie when it comes to flying, prior to nursing school she was an airline flight attendant. After 7 years serving others as a flight attendant, she decided on nursing and went to the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas and graduated with her RN degree. After working as a RN, Stacey's goal was to fly once again as a flight nurse. As Stacey worked in the Emergency Room at Baptist East and then Baptist South, she went to EMT and then Paramedic school at Trenholm State Community College in Montgomery. Shortly before the crash, she was able to sit and pass the National Registry Paramedic level test accomplishing her goal of becoming a Paramedic. If you were to ask any of Stacey's coworkers, they would all tell you she was a "take charge" person and very kind.

Jason is well known to many people in Central Alabama. Prior to coming to Haynes, Jason was a member of the Verbena Fire Department and previously worked at both RPS and Care Ambulance. While working at those companies, he gained the respect as a paramedic and all-around good guy. Briefly after, he was hired by Haynes to fly as a paramedic and we quickly learned how he became well respected. As he started training for the job, he looked at every possible way to gain knowledge and be a better provider. Jason was not only a well-respected medical provider but also a kind person. For Jason, caring for his patients did not only end after safe transport to the hospital, he often checked in on patients afterwards. On more than one occasion, Jason reached out to those patients offering words of encouragement and prayers. For many of us leaving our patients at the hospital is the end, but Jason serves as an example we can all go by.

Chad came to Haynes via Metro Aviation as an accomplished professional pilot. Being an aviator, especially a Life Flight pilot, was a goal Chad wanted to pursue for many years. He started his career in aviation as instructor pilot for helicopter students. As Chad progressed into his career he became a Captain at PHI as an off-shore pilot taking thousands of passengers to and from oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico. In 2013, Chad became a member of the prestigious FAA Airman Certification Designation. After arrival to the Haynes Life Flight program, he became liked by all crews for his easy going personality and competence as a pilot.

These crew members have left a mark on all of us and will be remembered forever. Each one in many ways made our program better and will be missed as we move forward. The Haynes Life Flight and Ambulance family thanks each of you for your thoughts, prayers and support given.

Wes Kelley RN, CFRN, NRP, CCEMTP
Flight Nurse/Paramedic
Haynes Life Flight





Alabama EMS Regions Updates

Alabama *EMS* *Challenge*

When: The First Wednesday of Each Month, 0830-1100

Where: UAB Highlands Auditorium, First Floor

What: Free Continuing Education for EMS providers

Who: Sponsored by Dr. Ferguson and the UAB Office of EMS in association with The Jefferson State Community College Paramedic Program and the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at UAB.

Agenda:

May 4th, 2016

0830- EKG/Stemi monthly review

0900- Stroke Update (from the intro to CCEMT-P class) Dr. Rustin

1000: Sepsis Updates: (from the intro to CCEMT-P class) Dr. Rustin/Ferguson

This will be a monthly event on topics TBD as requested per **YOU**, the EMS provider, with a Standing EKG review and open forum.

Please contact Dr. Will Ferguson for any question or concerns at willfergusonmd@gmail.com

Pre-registrations appreciated at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/alabama-ems-challenge-tickets-24891593426>

**Note: There will not be a June or July Lecture Series. Will Restart in August.
More info to follow !!!**

Lifeguard Ambulance Service – Mobile is excited to announce its accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) for its compliance with national standards of excellence. Lifeguard has chosen to subject itself to the strict guidelines and standards set forth by CAAS, which often exceed those established by state and local government regulations. The voluntary accreditation process includes a comprehensive self-assessment and independent external on-site review by national EMS experts, evaluating both the operational efficiency, as well as clinical quality.

CAAS is a non-profit organization, established to encourage and promote the highest standards for medical transport systems; the primary focus of the Commission's standards is high quality patient care. This is accomplished by establishing national standards that not only address the delivery of patient care, but also the ambulance service's total operation and its relationships with other agencies, the general public, and the medical community (<http://www.caas.org>).

Demonstrating its commitment to clinical quality, customer satisfaction, and innovation, Lifeguard's company-wide policies and procedures are built upon the framework of industry best practices. Lifeguard-Mobile received the esteemed, industry gold standard in late February, making it the **fourth** accredited service in the state of Alabama and the **only** accredited service in Southern Alabama. Throughout the United States, there are more than 15,000 ambulance service providers. Only 171 providers have received this prestigious accreditation, placing Lifeguard Ambulance in the top 1% of all ambulance providers. Any agency can claim it is delivering a high quality service, but a CAAS accredited agency can prove it.

VALUE OF CAAS ACCREDITATION: *(source PowerPoint presentation distributed by CAAS)*

- Written, documented procedures, systems, and reports
- Strong financial accountability
- Proven medical director involvement
- Established continuous quality improvement program
- Documented safety and compliance programs
- Quality fleet and equipment maintenance programs
- Closely monitored and trended response times
- Systems for recognizing, identifying, resolving, reporting, and trending issues as they develop, as well as preventing future events from occurring

