

**Provider Health and Safety Committee
Virginia Office of EMS
Virtual Meeting
April 5, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:
Lori Knowles, Chair	Valerie Quick	Karen Owens
Amy Ashe	Wayne Myers	Vincent Valeriano
Briant Atkins		
Jack Sullivan		
Wayne Perry		
Bryan McRay		

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The meeting was called to order at 0900 hours	
Review and approval of Minutes	Approval of the February 2020 meeting minutes will be delayed until the next meeting, when both February 2020 and April 2021 will be presented for approval.	
Introduction of Guests and New Committee Members	No guests or members to introduce. Karen read through the list of attendees to make sure everyone present was recognized.	
Instructions on how the meeting will run	Lori provided instructions regarding meeting flow including keeping your microphone on mute if you are not speaking and turning your camera off if you are experiencing bandwidth issues.	
Committee Chair Report & Update	Lori stated that she does not have a report as it has been over a year since our last meeting. The last big topic that was being discussed was provider exposure to decedent blood. Lori reminded committee members that there were other committees working on it, including education and medical direction. She also reminded committee members that she would be rotating off the board, so the committee will be getting a new chair. Karen also let them know that until Lori's replacement is appointed, she will still serve in her role.	
Committee Member/Other Reports	<p>Bryan McRay expressed appreciation for all of the public safety community for what they have done over the last year. It also shows resilience in all providers.</p> <p>Jack Sullivan stated that roadway incident safety continues to be a problem with 14 fatalities nationwide so far this year.</p> <p>Briant reported that DFP is working and getting back in to training with some challenges, but those are being worked on.</p> <p>No other committee reports were shared</p>	
Other Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Safety Exposure Workgroup – Karen provided an update on the public safety exposure workgroup, working to meet the requirements of House Bill 661. We have figured out processes related to the requirements of the bill, including access to test kits and the notification processes when an exposure 	

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	<p>occurs. Karen stated that she will be meeting with the Funeral Directors Association to give them an update on the progress on the bill. Final recommendations are due by June 1, so we will be working on the document and then waiting on feedback from the Governor and General Assembly before moving forward. Karen said one of the items they decided to move forward with was the exposure determination tool. This was built around the belief that there is a limited understanding in what exactly is an exposure. Vince walked the committee through the tool and how it worked. Vince asked for feedback on the final comments and end pages. He also shared the updates to the exposure website and information sharing.</p> <p>A question was asked regarding the ability to link it to ESO. Karen mentioned that they OEMS was working with ESOL to develop line of duty death and line of duty injury reporting. It will not necessarily be mandated to begin with, but will become a requirement.</p> <p>Bryan M. provided high praise of the work and the ability to create a resource for those smaller agencies that might not have access to as much.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CISM/Peer Support Accreditation – Karen provided an update on the CISM/Peer Support Accreditation process. She mentioned an increase in teams gathering information and asking questions about the process. Amy mentioned that there are five or six teams in the peninsula interested in accreditation. • Health and Safety Bulletins – Vince provided information on the updates to the Health & Safety bulletin page. He shared the large number of bulletins that have been developed since the last meeting and reviewed the website where they are all available. He shared the list of research documents that he has posted on various health and safety topics. He showed the different areas of the revamped website and encouraged committee members to look through the links and share any resources that he might not have included. 	<p>Karen will send the link to committee members to review.</p>
New Business		
Other Comments/Questions	<p>Related to the CISM/Peer Support Accreditation, Amy asked if an FAQ could be put together to help other teams as they start the process.</p> <p>Discussion was had regarding the issue of infection control and exposure education. Some of the concern was whether the information was retained when provided in initial training. Jack Sullivan suggested a small wallet card that providers can keep on themselves to help remind them about what is an exposure and how they should respond. An additional recommendation was the potential for scenarios to be included in testing so that they have to deal with exposures in a testing environment.</p>	<p>Amy will provide questions that she has received for Karen to develop the FAQ</p> <p>Vince will work on a draft wallet card.</p>
Public Comment	No public comment submitted	
Next Scheduled Meeting	August 2021 – Updates will be provided as we get closer	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 09:50	