

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Date:

May 16, 2007

To:

EMS Service Chiefs

From:

J. Robert Galvin, M.D., M.P.H.

Commissioner

Re:

Mass Gathering Event Planning

I would ask you to please share this memo with the leadership of the town(s) to whom you are responsible to provide emergency medical services (EMS).

Based upon advice and recommendations that I have received from the Connecticut EMS Medical Advisory Committee (CEMSMAC), the EMS Advisory Board, and Department of Public Health staff I would recommend to you the adoption of the following policy:

Any event that is large enough to involve planning for police and fire assets <u>must</u> also include at the outset the primary EMS agency that responds to 9-1-1 calls in the locality as well as the sponsor hospital. This should also include those agencies that provide mutual aid to the primary EMS agency (as deemed appropriate by the primary EMS agency) as well as other hospitals within the catchment area of the event.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Gary E. Wiemokly, EMS Section Chief at (860) 509-7975.

Cc:

EMS Advisory Board C. Steven Wolf, MD, CEMSMAC Leonard H. Guercia, Jr., Operations Branch Chief Gary E. Wiemokly, EMS Section Chief



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CONNECTICUT EMS MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEMSMAC) STATEWIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MASS GATHERING EVENT PLANNING

Some states have very specific requirements for medical coverage of mass gathering events of various sizes. These requirements can be complicated, costly, and not necessarily specific to the event.

On the other hand, Connecticut has a history of involving EMS late in the planning stages or not at all in some cases, thereby potentially risking public safety if EMS agencies are not able to plan properly and arrange for sufficient equipment and personnel to accommodate a potential surge in EMS volume.

Therefore CEMSMAC issues the following policy recommendation to all municipal executives, public safety officials, as well as event planners:

Any event that is large enough to involve planning for police and fire assets <u>must also include at the outset the primary EMS agency that responds to 911 calls in the locality as well as the sponsor hospital.</u> This may also include those EMS agencies that provide mutual aid to the primary EMS agency (as deemed appropriate by the primary EMS agency).

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Substitute House Bill No. 5701

Public Act No. 08-184

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO STATUTES PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

(Sections prior to and after this section have been deleted from this copy of PA 08-184)

Sec. 45. Section 19a-437 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

Before [he may be issued] the issuance of a license in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the applicant shall first:

- (1) Determine the maximum number of people which will be assembled or admitted to the location of the assembly, provided the maximum number shall not exceed the maximum number which can reasonably assemble at the location of the assembly in consideration of the nature of the assembly and provided, where the assembly is to continue overnight, the maximum number shall not be more than is allowed to sleep within the boundaries of the location of the assembly by the zoning or health ordinances of the municipality;
- (2) Provide proof that food concessions will be in operation on the grounds with sufficient capacity to accommodate the number of persons expected to be in attendance and that he will furnish at his own expense before the assembly commences: (A) Potable water, meeting all federal and state requirements for purity, sufficient to provide drinking water for the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least one gallon per person per day and water for bathing at the rate of at least ten gallons per person per day; (B) separate enclosed toilets for males and females, meeting all state and local specifications, conveniently located throughout the grounds, sufficient to provide facilities for the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least one toilet for every two hundred females and at least one toilet for every three hundred males, together with an efficient, sanitary means of disposing of waste matter deposited, which is in compliance with all state and local laws and regulations. A lavatory with running water under pressure and a continuous supply of soap and paper towels shall be provided with

each toilet; (C) a sanitary method of disposing of solid waste, in compliance with state and local laws and regulations, sufficient to dispose of the solid waste production of the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least two and one-half pounds of solid waste per person per day, together with a plan for holding and a plan for collecting all such waste at least once each day of the assembly and sufficient trash cans with tight fitting lids and personnel to perform the task; (D) [physicians and nurses licensed to practice in this state at the rate of at least one physician for every one thousand people and at least one nurse for every fifteen hundred people anticipated to be assembled, together with an enclosed covered structure where treatment may be rendered, containing a separately enclosed treatment room for each physician, and at least one emergency ambulance available for use at all times a written plan reviewed by the primary service area responder, as defined in section 19a-175, in the location where the assembly is to be held, that indicates that the applicant has satisfactorily planned and arranged for the on-site availability of an emergency medical service organization, as defined in section 19a-175, during the duration of the assembly; (E) if the assembly is to continue during hours of darkness, illumination sufficient to light the entire area of the assembly at the rate of at least five foot candles, but not to shine unreasonably beyond the boundaries of the location of the assembly; (F) a free parking area inside of the assembly grounds sufficient to provide parking space for the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least one parking space for every four persons; (G) telephones connected to outside lines sufficient to provide service for the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least one separate line and receiver for each one thousand persons; (H) if the assembly is to continue overnight, camping facilities in compliance with all state and local requirements, sufficient to provide camping accommodations for the maximum number of people to be assembled; (I) security guards, either regularly employed, duly sworn, off duty policemen or constables or private guards, licensed in this state, sufficient to provide adequate security for the maximum number of people to be assembled at the rate of at least one security guard for every seven hundred fifty people; (J) fire protection, including alarms, extinguishing devices and fire lanes and escapes, sufficient to meet all state and local standards for the location of the assembly and sufficient emergency personnel to operate efficiently the required equipment; (K) all reasonably necessary precautions to insure that the sound of the assembly will not carry unreasonably beyond the enclosed boundaries of the location of the assembly; and (L) a bond, filed with the clerk of the municipality in which the assembly is to gather, either in cash or underwritten by a surety company licensed to do business in this state at the rate of four dollars per person for the maximum number of people permitted to assemble, which (i) shall indemnify and hold harmless the municipality or any of its agents, officers, servants or employees from any liability or causes of action which might arise by reason of granting the license, and from any cost incurred in cleaning up any waste material produced or left by the assembly; (ii) guarantee the state the payment of any taxes which may accrue as a result of the gathering; and (iii) guarantee reimbursement of ticketholders if the event is cancelled.