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## OPERATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin #	Title		Date Issued
#2020-03-27-01	Guidance for EMS Services regarding Continuity of Operations		March 27, 2020
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None	Maine EMS	Maine EMS	1
Approved By:	J. Sam Hurley, MPH, EMPS, NRP (Maine EMS Director)		

Considering the current COVID-19 pandemic within the State of Maine, Maine EMS would like to encourage *all non-transporting agencies* to reassess their current response plans in collaboration with their partnering transport and non-transport services. There may be an opportunity for revision of these plans to allow for decreased exposure to first responding services and conservation of personal protective equipment (PPE) while continuing to maintain essential services for those calls that are deemed “urgent” to “time-life sensitive” by the emergency medical dispatching (EMD) process (i.e. charlie-, delta-, and echo-level calls).

Maine EMS is ready to review revised response plans that potentially account for reduced response to some calls; however, response plans that eliminate all responses will not be considered. EMS services that elect to cease responses to all calls will be construed as surrendering their EMS license to operate in the State of Maine. Additionally, Chapter 3, Section 17 of the Maine EMS System Rules requires that these services notify both Maine EMS and their communities that they are no longer providing care. Services that do not comply with these termination of service requirements will be referred to the Maine EMS Board Investigations Committee for review based on violations of the Maine EMS System Rules. If a surrendered service wants to resume its EMS operations at a later date, it will have to apply to Maine EMS for a new license.

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