

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 152 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK COMMISSIONER

> J. SAM HURLEY DIRECTOR

May 17, 2020

Dear EMS Colleagues,

On behalf of the Maine EMS Board, office staff, and Medical Direction and Practices Board (MDPB), it is our pleasure to wish each and every one of you a Happy EMS Week! We are excited to celebrate each of you throughout the year but especially on this special occasion. Thanks to Governor Mills, she has proclaimed May 17-23, 2020 as Emergency Medical Services Week in the State of Maine. We are excited to embrace the national theme of *EMS Strong: Ready Today. Preparing for Tomorrow.* 

Maine EMS continues to be awe inspired by the dedication and efforts of EMS clinicians and professionals throughout the State of Maine. We understand that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has placed immeasurable stress on you, your families, your friends, your communities, and the EMS system; yet as you have always done before and continue to do moving forward – you persevere. Our system, while facing challenges, is strong, resilient, and ready for anything. The MDPB has worked tirelessly to provide up-to-date medical protocols that enable each of you to provide cutting-edge, evidence-based medical treatment throughout this pandemic. However, these efforts are meaningless without the skill, precision, and dedication that we have seen exhibited by you and your colleagues throughout the State of Maine.

While we are unable to provide the normal celebratory and memorial events that are typically hosted during EMS Week due to the ongoing pandemic, we look forward to celebrating EMS professionals throughout the state virtually this year. Despite cancelling this year's awards ceremony, we hope to review the nominations and recognize the exemplary individuals honored by those awards later this year.

Most importantly, thank you. Thank you for being kind, compassionate, dedicated, and driven to provide the residents of, and visitors to, the State of Maine with the highest quality emergency medical services in the world. You really are the best!

Thank you,

Joe Kellner Chair, Maine EMS Board

Sam Harley Director, Maine EMS

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Dr. J. Matthew Sholl State Medical Director, Maine EMS



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