



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



JANET T. MILLS
 GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
 COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY
 DIRECTOR

INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2020, 09:00-12:00

GAMBLING CONTROL BOARD ROOM, AUGUSTA

ZOOM: <https://maine-ems-gov.zoom.us/j/91542570561>

MINUTES

Call to Order at 09:00

Members Present: Tim Beals, Joe Kellner, Amy Drinkwater, Laura Downing

Staff: Melissa Adams, Griffin Bourassa

Office of Attorney General: Katie Johnson, Ron Guay

“The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all providers. All members of this board/committee should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this Board/Committee, we commit to serve the respective providers, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.”

1. Informal Conference (09:00) – Case 20-124; Licensee not present

Summary 20-124: A patient complaint that the licensee allegedly was incompetent in carrying out his duties as an EMT. The inadequate patient care and delay in obtaining definitive care/ALS backup is in question.

On September 24, 2020 the Committee made a motion to table this case to allow the Licensing Agent additional attempts to make contact with the Licensee. Since this meeting all mail has been returned as undeliverable despite verifying the address for the Licensee with the postal service.

● **Excellence** ● **Support** ● **Collaboration** ● **Integrity** ●

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With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

MOTION: The committee made a motion to table this case, again, to allow for researching an updated address for the Licensee, to make and verify contact. (Kellner, second by Drinkwater)

Roll call vote:

Beals – yes

Downing - yes

Kellner – yes

Drinkwater - yes

2. Informal Conference (09:45) – Case 20-125;

Summary 20-125: A patient complaint that a Licensed EMS Service does not have the necessary pediatric medical equipment. The decision making ability, standards of conduct, and transport policy at this department are also in question.

On September 24, 2020 the Committee made a motion to table this case to allow the Service to provide the following documents for review at the October meeting:

- QI plan – outlining who will be responsible for reviews, what calls will be reviewed, etc.
- Training plan – mandatory training for the involved personnel, at a minimum, specific to the issues cited.
- Transfer of care policy – outlining how the service expects clinicians to transfer patients between levels of care, specifically downgrading care.
- Mutual aid policies – outlining when and how clinicians are expected to request mutual aid, and factors for determining the most appropriate resource to request.
- Inspection policy – clearly defining roles and responsibilities of all staff.

Since this meeting the Service has worked with the Licensing Agent to provide all requested documents with satisfactory content.

MOTION: To enter executive session pursuant to 32 M.R.S. § 90-A(3) and 1 M.R.S. § 405(6)(E) & (F) to receive legal advice and to conduct an informal conference concerning case number 20-118. (Kellner, second by Downing)

Roll call vote:

Beals – yes

Downing – yes

Kellner – yes

Drinkwater - yes

Executive session entered at 09:42

MOTION: To exit executive session. (Downing, second by Drinkwater)

Roll call vote:

Beals – yes

Downing – yes

Kellner – yes

Drinkwater - yes

Executive session ended at 09:52

MOTION: The Committee made a motion to resolve this case by issuing a letter of guidance, citing the importance of maintaining equipment as per MEMS rules, as well as acquiring pre-authorization to conduct training courses; to be kept on file for four (4) years. (Kellner, second by Drinkwater)

Roll call vote:

Beals - yes

Downing - yes

Kellner - yes

Drinkwater - yes

3. Informal Review (10:00) – Case 20-134; Applicant Present

Summary 20-134: Jessica Chartier, a previously licensed EMT, submitted a New Provider application, but failed to disclose a criminal conviction for negotiating a worthless instrument, a class D crime, from 2018. She was licensed at the time of the conviction and did not notify MEMS.

MOTION: The Committee made a motion to table this case to allow the applicant to provide letters of recommendation, at least one from a counselor, that speak to her ability to tolerate EMS work and supports rehabilitation to warrant the public's trust. (Downing, second by Kellner)

Roll call vote:

Beals - yes

Downing - yes

Kellner - yes

Drinkwater – yes

The Committee reviewed a revised delegation order for MEMS Staff to issue a letter of guidance in specific situations, including patient care reporting violations, QA participation violations, and unlicensed practice violations.

MOTION: To present the formal Delegation Order to the Board for consideration at the November 4th meeting. (Beals, second by Kellner)

Roll call vote:

Beals – yes

Downing – yes

Kellner – yes

Drinkwater - yes

Katie introduced Ron Guay, who will be taking over for her as the Representative to the Maine EMS Board from the Attorney General's Office over the next month.

Next meeting will be November 24, 2020 at 09:00

MOTION: To adjourn. (Kellner, second by Drinkwater)

Roll call vote:

Beals – yes

Downing – yes

Kellner – yes

Drinkwater

Adjourned at 11:03