

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, 2021

Dear EMS Colleagues,

On behalf of the Maine EMS Board, Office, and Medical Direction and Practice 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 16-22, 2021 as Emergency Medical Services Week in the State of Maine. We are excited to embrace the national theme of This is EMS: Caring for Our Communities.

Maine EMS continues to be awe inspired by the dedication and efforts of EMS clinicians and professionals throughout the State of Maine. The past year and the 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. From assisting with COVID-19 testing to conducting vaccination clinics, Maine's EMS system has gone beyond it's traditional confines to mount a robust response to this pandemic and meet the needs of our communities. The incredible skills, precision, and dedication that we have seen exhibited by you and your colleagues throughout the State of Maine are a testament to the quality of incredible clinicians that we have in our state.

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.

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 Harlev

Director, Maine EMS

MD

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