

A focus on personal, patient, and community safety...



APRIL 2, 2024 - 11th EMS Financial Symposium | **APRIL 3-5, 2024** - 16th Annual National EMS Safety Summit



16th Annual National EMS Safety Summit: A Safety Academy

A Focus on Personal, Patient, and Community Safety

***Convened by the Mile-High Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma
Advisory Council (Mile-High RETAC) since 2008
Embassy Suites by Hilton- Downtown Denver
1420 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado 80202***

16th Annual National EMS Safety Summit Conference Speakers

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Kate Ekkins, MPH, CPH, NRP, CHES

NHTSA Office of EMS, National 911 Program EMS, and 911 Specialist



Kate works in the NHTSA office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the National 911 Program. She has a background spanning over two decades in EMS, disaster response, public health and injury prevention. Kate has a Master of Public Health degree with a focus on epidemiology and injury prevention. Kate is currently a DrPH student with a focus on health policy and a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Fellow at Johns Hopkins. She is a Paramedic, EMS Captain, preceptor and teaches college-level public health and paramedic studies.

At NHTSA, Kate works with EMS and 911 stakeholders on projects related to pediatrics, GIS, education, rural/tribal issues, mental health, workforce wellness and emerging infectious diseases. Kate helped establish and was the Deputy Team Lead for the Prehospital/EMS team of the Healthcare Resilience Working Group (HRWG), for the FEMA/HHS response to COVID-19. Kate collaborated with (CDC) and (NIOSH) on a study of suicide among first responders to be published in the Journal of Safety Research. Kate currently attends the federal working group on suicide prevention and the White House interagency policy committee for suicide prevention as an EMS and 911 subject matter expert.

Scott Bourn, PhD, RN, FACHE

VP Clinical Quality & Impact, Securisyn Medical, Co-Founder and Faculty, NAEMSP Quality and Safety Course



Scott Bourn PhD, RN, FACHE has a rich and diverse background in EMS, emergency & critical care nursing, and education. His career roles include: field paramedic, emergency department and critical care nurse, EMS system coordinator, director of a university EMS degree program, researcher, and senior clinical executive for two national healthcare organizations. He has also served as the president of the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE), Board Liaison for the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP), and President of Advocates for EMS. He is widely published and has lectured throughout North America. His work has focused on defining, measuring, and improving patient outcomes and experience.

Dr. Bourn is the Chair of the Research Leadership Group at ESO, a Mentor in the Leadership Mentoring Network of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Co-Founder and Faculty for the NAEMSP Quality & Safety Course, Secretary and Board Member for the GMR Foundation for Research and Education, Advisory Board Member for the Prehospital Care Research Forum, and on the Editorial Advisory Board of the International Journal of Paramedicine. He also serves as a regular volunteer in the food pantry at the Douglas/Elbert Counties Help & Hope Center, addressing food and other necessities for homeless, low income and the working poor, as well as Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, building and maintaining trails in Colorado's mountains.

Alex (AJ) Rosario, MICP, NRP

Hackensack Meridian Health, Hackensack University Medical Center, Clinical Supervisor

Alex Rosario serves as the Clinical Supervisor at Hackensack University Medical Center's EMS department, bringing his experience as a Nationally Registered Paramedic. In his role, he oversees Quality Improvement and Quality Assurance initiatives, ensuring the highest standards of care and performance among the paramedics in the EMS Department. With a commitment to excellence, Alex plays a pivotal role in maintaining and enhancing the quality of care provided by the department.

Douglas Kupas, MD, EMT-P, FAEMS

Geisinger Health System, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Medical Director, Geisinger EMS, Co-Director Geisinger Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program, Director, Resuscitation Programs



Dr. Kupas has focused on EMS patient and clinician safety throughout his career as an EMS physician. He is the EMS medical director for Geisinger EMS and the director of Resuscitation Programs at Geisinger. Dr. Kupas is board certified in EMS and emergency medicine. As a professor of emergency medicine, his scholarly interests are in EMS vehicle crashes, lights and siren use, safe airway care, medication safety and other aspects of patient safety. In addition to these roles, Dr. Kupas is also the President-Elect of the National Association of EMS Physicians and the Medical Director of the National Association of EMTs.

Frederic Hass, JR.

Geisinger EMS, Safety Manager



Fred Haas, NRP, MS is a Paramedic Shift Commander responsible for Health and Safety at Sussex County EMS Serving the beaches of southern Delaware. He holds a BS degree in Healthcare Administration and a Master's in Occupational Safety and Health and is certified Designated Infection Control Officer (DICO-C). He is also a Graduate Safety Professional (GSP). After graduating from Williamsport Hospital Paramedic Training Institute in 1985, he worked for many EMS services in central Pennsylvania including hospital, fire, private, and air-medical EMS. In addition, to his work as Shift Commander with SCEMS, he is also a hazmat technician, and toxmedic. He authored an article in April 2014 Fire Engineering on the stat's toxmedic program. At SCEMS he received awards as Paramedic of the Year in 2002, Field Training Officer of the Year in 2003 and 2007, and Supervisor of the Year in 2010 and 2012. In 2018, Fred was the recipient of Robert W. Jones EMS Instructor/Educator Award given by the Delaware State EMS Association to their instructor of the year. Fred frequently speaks at professional conferences in the EMS and Hazardous Materials Response fields. As he approaches "retirement", he has recently taken on the position of EMS Manager for Knoebel's Amusement Park in central Pennsylvania.

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Michael Stern

National Fire Academy, U.S. Fire Administration Training Specialist EMS Curriculum



Michael joined the National Fire Academy staff in 2008, coincidentally as the Reauthorization of the U.S. Fire Administration was revised to include emergency medical services. This change led to the continued efforts to develop and revise NFA EMS curriculum content focused on EMS leadership and management and MCI incident management. “Other duties as assigned” at the NFA have included representation and active committee work in the Federal Interagency Committee on EMS (FICEMS), as well as driving the change of the health and safety courses to a separate curriculum with a specific Training Specialist.

Prior to the NFA, Michael was the EMS Deputy Chief and County Emergency Manager for Grand County Colorado. Previously he had been a firefighter, EMT, Paramedic, and instructor in several areas of the U.S. from Prince George’s County Maryland to Kitsap County Washington. Michael served in the U.S. Navy, beginning aboard the battleship USS Wisconsin and then as a Hospital Corpsman.

Matthew R. Streger, Esq., MPA, NRP

Attorney at Law, Keavney & Streger, LLC



Matthew R. Streger is a paramedic and attorney with more than thirty-five years of EMS experience. Matthew is a Partner at the law firm of Keavney & Streger in New Jersey where he focuses his practice on the needs of EMS agencies and healthcare providers. He is the recipient of the 2018 New Jersey State Bar Association Health Law Distinguished Service Award, the 2012 Service to the Bar Award, and led his agency to the 2014 New Jersey EMS System of the Year Award. He is admitted to practice in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He is also a Principal at the consulting and education firm of EMSaegis, LLC.

Matthew has practiced law since 2006. He is a past Chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association Health Law Section and a past leader in the Young Lawyers Division. Matthew previously worked in EMS systems in New Jersey, New York, South Carolina and Ohio. He served as the Executive Director of Mobile Health Services (EMS) at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Jersey and the Deputy Commissioner of EMS in Cleveland. He was a member of the Panel of Commissioners for the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) from 2015 to 2020 and is a principal member of the CAAS 4.0 Standards Committee.

Matthew completed his Paramedic Training at the UMDNJ School of Health-Related Professions in Newark, New Jersey. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration from the City University of New York, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, a Master of Public Administration Degree from Clemson University, and a Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University School of Law.

Matthew actively serves as a Per-Diem EMT for the Cherry Hill Fire Department EMS in New Jersey.

Kolby Miller, EMT-P, I/C, MBA
Medstar (Michigan) President and CEO



Kolby Miller serves as the Chief Executive Officer for Medstar, Michigan's largest EMS agency. A paramedic for over 30 years, Kolby's EMS career began in Flint in 1987 and he has led Medstar since 2005.

Under his leadership, Medstar has grown from an average of 74 responses daily with 80 full-time employees to a 2024 daily forecast of 520 patients and 950 team members in eleven Michigan counties.

Kolby has served on the Michigan Association of Ambulance Services (MAAS) board of directors since 2002, leading the Legislative and Regulatory Committee for several years, and as association president in 2009, and again from 2017-2019. Kolby has coordinated education speakers at [Michigan EMS Expo](#) on behalf of MAAS since 2010. In addition to his MAAS involvement, Kolby is a Survey Team Leader for the [Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services \(CAAS,\)](#) and serves on the Board of Directors for the [Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan](#). He was appointed by the governor to represent EMS on the State Trauma Advisory Committee (STAC,) from 2020 through 2022. In 2022, he led the development of the "EMS System Design and Safety Summit." The summit, now in its third year, brings together elected officials, healthcare leaders, and EMS agency leaders together with national clinical and system leaders to discuss EMS system design focusing on balancing patient outcomes with provider, patient, and public safety.

He holds an MBA from Walsh College and completed his bachelor's degree at Michigan Christian (Rochester) College. In addition, Kolby earned the Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) Certification from the Michigan State Police in 1992, Six Sigma-Healthcare Certification from Villanova University, and several Michigan Firefighters Training Council certifications. Originally from Swartz Creek, Michigan, Kolby now lives in Hartland and focuses his time away from Medstar on advocacy for those experiencing homelessness, documentary film festivals, and sailing.

Andrew T. Caruso, AS, EMT, CEM

Monmouth County Sherriff's Office, Deputy Coordinator, New Jersey EMS Task Force, Safety Module Manager



Andrew T. Caruso is the Deputy EMS Coordinator for Monmouth County Sheriff's Office and the President of 503 Safety Consultants. Additionally, he serves as the Safety Module Manager for the New Jersey EMS Task Force. He was previously Director of Operations for MONOC EMS; New Jersey's largest mobile healthcare service, overseeing ALS, BLS, SCT, and Air Medical Services. He has over 30 years of EMS experience and has spent the majority of his career dedicated to finding and implementing new ways to increase safety and the quality of service provided to his community. He is a Certified Emergency Manager, Ambulance Service Manager, Mental Health Resilience Officer, Anger Resolution Therapist and is trained in Field Force Operations, and Critical Incident Stress Management. He is also a regular contributor to EMS publications and has spoken around the country at various EMS conferences.

Peter Dworsky, MPH, EMT-P, CEM., FACPE

Markel Insurance, Senior Risk Solutions, Specialist



Peter is the Senior Risk Solutions Specialist for The Markel Group. He has been in EMS, emergency management and safety for over 30 years, having worked as a paramedic in NYC, as the Paramedic Director at Jersey City Medical Center and the Director of EMS and Disaster Preparedness for Saint Barnabas Health Care System and the Corporate Director for MONOC Mobile Health. Peter was the Safety Officer for the NJ State EMS Task Force.

He remains a member of the Executive Board of the International Association of EMS Chiefs after completing his term as the President and is a member of the member of the Mentor Committee for the International Association of Emergency Managers. Peter has published numerous textbook chapters and articles related to EMS and Emergency Management and routinely speaks at state and national conferences. Twice he has received the JEMS magazines' EMS 10 Innovators Award.

His credentials include a master's degree in public health, a bachelor's degree in EMS Management, a Certified Emergency Manager by the International Association of Emergency Managers most recently, a Fellow of the American College of Paramedic Executives. He has been trained as an OSHA Certified Safety Professional, a Certified Business Continuity Resilience Planner, and a health risk manager. Peter is also a Master SCUBA instructor and for fun - a certified Kansas City BBQ judge.

Friday, April 5, 2024

Brian Maloney, MS, Paramedic

Plum EMS, Director of Operations, 2023 NAEMT-ACEP/Technimount EMS Safety in EMS Award Recipient



Brian Maloney is the Director of Operations of Plum EMS, an agency located outside Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has worked in EMS for 25 years and is an alumnus of the University of Pittsburgh, where he received his bachelor's degree, and Carlow University where he received his master's degree. Brian is extremely proud to be part of Plum EMS as this organization was awarded the NAEMT-ACEP Safety in EMS Award in 2023 for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of EMS safety.

Garrett Hedeem, MHA, LP

Occupational Health and Safety Specialist Sr., Austin Travis County EMS



Garrett Hedeem is currently an EMS Safety Specialist at Austin Travis County EMS. He previously served as Manager of EMS for Indiana University Health Bloomington EMS and as an EMS Safety Officer for Indianapolis EMS, as well as a field training officer and adjunct

educator. As an Indiana certified primary instructor, Garrett has taught many different EMS disciplines, both clinical and operational.

He has been an EMS advocate in many forms and was awarded the 2017 NAEMT EMS Advocate of the Year Award. He served as EMS Union President for an IAFF local and has served on the Board of NAEMT and the Indiana EMS Association in numerous positions over the years.

Garrett's passion is EMS safety. He is a NAEMT EMS Safety Course instructor, serves as Chairman of the NAEMT EMS Workforce committee, and is the NAEMT representative on the National Safety Council, and NFPA Emergency Responder Occupational Health Technical Committee. Garrett is enrolled at Indiana State University in the Master of Science Occupational Health and Safety program. He is also an Eagle Scout.

Roger Patterson,

*Commander and Safety Officer, Designated Infection Control Officer
Austin Travis County EMS*



Roger Patterson is currently the Safety Officer for Austin-Travis County EMS. He began his EMS career in Alaska as a member of the Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department. He completed his paramedic training at the University of Iowa and began his career at A/TCEMS in 2006. Over the next 16 years, he was assigned to the Department's Special Operations Section as a Field Paramedic, FTO, Captain, and Commander. He transitioned into the Safety Officer role in 2022 and is currently responsible for managing the Department's OHS Program, which covers over 650 uniformed and civilian employees. He has also been a member of Texas Task Force 1 for 17 years, serving most recently as a Swiftwater Boat Squad Leader.

Roger was born and raised in Alaska. He graduated from Princeton University and earned his graduate certificate in Public Health Preparedness from the Penn

State Hershey College of Medicine. He enjoys the outdoors and lives north of Austin with his wife, Heather, and their two children.

Crystal Eastman, Paramedic, AAS

Denver Health Paramedics, EMS Education: Paramedic School Lead Instructor



Crystal Eastman is the Paramedic School Program Lead Instructor for the Denver Health Paramedics EMS Education Department. Crystal began her career in Emergency Medical Services providing patient care 20 years ago. In 2016, she transitioned into EMS education after developing a passion for helping people learn. Crystal was born and raised in Denver and has been working for Denver Health Paramedics for 16 years. Crystal has an associate degree in paramedicine and graduated from Arapahoe Community College earning placement on the President's List for excellent academic performance. Crystal is best known for her verbal de-escalation lecture which she has taught system wide for Denver Health Hospital.

Jason Brooks, BAS, EMT-P, I/C

DT4EMS, LLC President/CEO



Jason Brooks is the President/CEO of DT4EMS the creator of the Escaping Violent Encounters program that is specific to Healthcare Personal and a recognized subject matter expert of violence in healthcare. As a veteran Paramedic and healthcare educator with over 28 years of experience, Jason has presented across the country in the reasonable use of force when escaping a violent encounter.