Resolution 2002-01

Emergency Medical Services at Wildland Fires

NASEMSD

Whereas, the National Association of State EMS Directors (NASEMSD) recognizes the need for high-quality emergency medical services (EMS) to be provided to wildland firefighters through a standardized system of basic and advanced life support appropriate to the level of state certification or licensure; and

Whereas, state EMS offices have the legislated authority and responsibility to assure and verify that EMS care meets or exceeds minimum standards to people residing and working in their state; and

Whereas, NASEMSD recognizes that the agencies which coordinate wildland fires often do so under adverse circumstances; and

Whereas, local EMS resources are properly certified or licensed by the appropriate state or local agency, operate under local medical direction, and know the local protocols and capabilities of the area health-care system; and

Whereas, it is desirable to have an organized national approach for granting legal recognition to out-of-state emergency medical personnel that ensures that such personnel are appropriately credentialed and operate under appropriate medical direction; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the National Association of State EMS Directors call upon the agencies responding to or arranging staffing for wildland fires to work with them to create standards to be followed when identifying and using resources at the local, state, regional and national levels; and

Now, therefore be it further resolved that the National Association of State EMS Directors pledges to work with the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and the National Interagency Fire Center to identify and implement a workable resolution and provide the highest level of pre-hospital medicine and safety to the firefighters and others responding to incidents across the United States.

Intended recipients:

Bureau of Land Management, Fire and Aviation Management (DOI-BLM)
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fire Management (DOI-BIA)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Fire Management (USDA-FWS)
National Park Service (DOI-NPS)
USDA Forest Service, Fire and Aviation (USDA-USFS)
National Weather Service, Fire Weather (USDOC-NOAA-NWS)
Office of Aircraft Services (DOI-OAS)
National Association of State Foresters (non-profit organization – NASF)
National Multi-agency Coordinating Group (NMCG)
Federal Interagency Committee on EMS (FICEMS)

Signed this 25th day of October, 2002.

Gia Gaines
NASEMSD 2001-02 President

Nancy Bourgeois
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NASEMSD 2001-02 Secretary

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