

National EMS  
**SAFETY SUMMIT**  
Make it a culture!

March 26-29, 2019



**National EMS Safety Summit**  
***A Focus on Personal, Patient and Community Safety***

Embassy Suites by Hilton  
Denver Downtown Convention Center  
1420 Stout St., Denver, Colorado 80202  
Crystal Ballroom  
March 26-29, 2019

**Safety Summit Speakers**  
**Draft 1.5.19**

**Sponsored by Mile-High and Plains to Peaks RETACs**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2019- Pre-Conference**

8:35 – 10:30

***Understanding Payers and the WHY it is  
Important to Your Ambulance Service  
Reimbursement***

**Asbel Montes, BN-BM**  
Acadian Ambulance Service  
VP of Government Relations and Revenue Cycle

**Speaker Bio:**

**Asbel Montes, BS-BM**, VP of Government Relations and Revenue Cycle

Asbel Montes began his career in the ambulance industry in 1999. His EMS career included directing and leading teams that provided revenue cycle consultation to air and ground ambulance agencies and has culminated in his current position at Acadian Ambulance Service as their Vice President of Government Relations and Revenue Cycle.

Over the past 20 years, Asbel has been a member of numerous organizations, including the Healthcare Financial Managers Association (HFMA), the American Ambulance Association (AAA), National EMS Managers Association (NEMSMA) and the National Association of EMTs (NAEMT). He has also served as a board member for the AAA and Louisiana Ambulance Alliance. Asbel currently serves on numerous committees and more notably chairs the AAA Payment Reform Committee as the industry begins to navigate the current healthcare changes and the correlation to the air and ground ambulance industry.

In 2016, Asbel was appointed to the Ambulance Transport Alternatives Task Force for the State of Louisiana by Governor John Bel Edwards. He is a respected thought leader on reimbursement initiatives within the industry and is a requested speaker at many conferences. He has also been asked to testify as an expert witness before federal and state health committees regarding ambulance reimbursement and veteran health initiatives as it relates to emergency medicine.

Asbel is a contributing author in several EMS magazines as well as co-authoring the book, *Management of Ambulance Services*, as published by Prentice Hall in 2014.

12:30 – 2:30

***EMS Financial Management: How to Start, How to Thrive***

**Maggie Adams, BBA**  
*EMS Financial Services, Inc.*

**Speaker Bio:**

Maggie Adams is the president of EMS Financial Services, with 25 years' experience in the ambulance industry as a business owner and reimbursement and compliance consultant. Known for a practical approach and winning presentation style, Maggie has worked with medical transportation providers and billing companies of all kinds to support their billing, auditing, and documentation training efforts. In the past year, Maggie trained thousands of EMS field providers and billers nationwide on EMS billing and EMS documentation compliance.

Maggie is a *Cum Laude* graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

2:45 – 4:15

***“You’re Willing to Pay for That?” – New Payer Perspectives on “EMS” Payments***

**Matt Zavadsky MS-HSA, NREMT**

*MedStar Mobile Healthcare,*

*Chief Strategic Integration Officer, NAEMT President*

**Speaker Bio:**

Matt is the Chief Strategic Integration Officer for MedStar Mobile Healthcare in Fort Worth, TX. He has helped guide the implementation and financial sustainability of numerous innovative programs with healthcare partners that have transformed MedStar fully as a Mobile Integrated Healthcare provider. Most recently, he has led the negotiations with multiple third-party payers to change the basic economic model for EMS to better align patient, provider and payer focus on patient centered care as opposed to simply payment for ambulance transport.

Matt is also the President for the National Association of EMTs and chairs their EMS 3.0 committee. He is the co-author of the book “Mobile Integrated Healthcare – Approach to Implementation” published by Jones & Bartlett Publishing. He has a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration, with a Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Data Management.

4:15 – 5:15

***Advocacy, National Financial Trends and the Future of EMS***

**Asbel Montes, BS-BM**

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### **Safety Summit Speakers** **Draft 1.5.19**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

8:15 - 9:00

### **Operations Consideration to Improve and Ensure Crews & Patient Safety**

**A J Heightman, MPA, EMT-P**

*Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS)*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

**A.J. Heightman, MPA, EMT-P**, is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Emergency Medical Services (*JEMS*), based out of San Diego, CA.

Prior to joining the staff of *JEMS*, A.J. served for 17 years as **Executive Director of the six-county Eastern PA EMS region in Allentown, PA** and then as **Director of Operations for Cetronia Ambulance** in Lehigh County.

Throughout his career in Eastern PA, A.J. also served as a **paramedic and EMS command officer with the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Dept.** and

also worked as a paramedic (part-time) for both the City of Allentown and Bethlehem EMS divisions.

**A.J. is a graduate of Temple University and received his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Lehigh University.**

**A certified EMS and rescue instructor**, A.J. has served on the faculty of university EMS degree programs; community college emergency service training divisions and fire academies.

A.J. is well known for his work in the area of EMS management and mass casualty incident management.

9:00 – 10:00

### ***One Purpose Fifty-Eight Reasons***

**D. Troy Tuke, RN, NREMT-P**

*Assistant Fire Chief,  
EMS Clark County Fire Department*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Chief Troy Tuke began his career in EMS after obtaining Paramedic and RN degrees from BYU-Idaho in 1989. Chief Tuke has worked full time as a RN, as well as a Paramedic specializing in Critical Care/ ER and Flight Nursing prior to his employment with the Clark County Fire Department. Chief Tuke has been a Nationally Registered Paramedic since 1988.

Chief Tuke's career with the Clark County Fire Department began in 1996 when he was hired as a Firefighter/Paramedic. After eight years of service, he was promoted to Fire Engineer in 2004. After serving four years as an Engineer, he was promoted to EMS Coordinator in 2008. In 2010, Chief Tuke was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief of Emergency Medical Services. Chief Tuke is currently working as the Assistant Fire Chief over EMS. Chief Tuke was deployed to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as a Medical Specialist for Nevada Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team. He currently maintains his RN license, National Registry Paramedic Certification and license, and is an EMS Master Instructor, Clinical Instructor at the UNLV School of Medicine and a Paramedic Preceptor. Chief Tuke is a member of the IAFC EMS section and also serves on the NAEMT Board of Directors representing region 4.

Chief Tuke's hobbies include mountain biking, skiing and he is involved in many church programs involving youth ages 12-18. He has been married to his wife Debbie for 30 years and has two daughters, Brittany, Rylie and a son in law Travis.

10:30 - 12:30

## ***Medical Preparedness for Complex Emergencies and Disasters- Community Resiliency- Patient Safety***

**Colonel (Res.) Professor Isaac Ashkenazi MD, MSc, MPA, MNS**

*Former Director of the Urban Terrorism Preparedness Project at the NPLI Harvard University; an Adjunct Professor of Disaster Management at UGA; a Professor of Disaster Medicine at Ben-Gurion University in Israel; Founder of NIRES Center at the College of Law and Business; Commander at Mobile Med One Foundation; Advisory Board of Israel homeland Security; Consultant to Harvard University, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of homeland Security, FEMA, the White House, the World Bank, Rio Olympic Games, the Brazilian Ministry of Defense, India NDMA, SAMUR – Proteccion Civil, China Ministry of Health and other National and International Agencies; Served as Surgeon General for the IDF Home Front Command*

1:15 - 2:30

## ***Implementing NFPA 3000: How to Prepare Your Community and Agency to Better Respond to Active Shooter and Hostile Events***

**Ofer Lichtman**

*Founder High Threat Innovations*

### **Speaker Bio:**

Ofer Lichtman has been involved in Public safety and terrorism preparedness for the past 22 years. He started his career as an EMT in Israel at the age of 14 and since 2006 has been working for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District (California) where he serves as a Fire Engineer / Paramedic and their Terrorism Liaison Officer coordinator. Ofer was instrumental in developing his departments Terrorism Awareness and Response Program which included implementation of an Active Shooter Response Program. Ofer is currently assigned as a Task Force Officer for the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force in San Bernardino / Riverside County. One of Ofer's primary roles on the JTTF is to facilitate integration and Intel sharing amongst our first responders and the FBI. Ofer is a voting member on the Committee on Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (C-TECC) where he helps implement medical best practice guidelines for first Responders. Ofer also serves as a committee member and subject matter expert on the NFPA 3000 committee for cross functional response to mass



violence and active shooter events. Ofer was instrumental in implementing a community wide approach to responding effectively to mass violent events where he facilitated the training for all city employees and over 20,000 community members. Ofer has presented on numerous topics locally and nationally ranging from EMS to Terrorism as well as publish numerous online articles. Ofer holds a Terrorism and Homeland Security Specialist Certification from CSTI and is a graduate of the Naval Post Graduate executive leaders program for homeland defense and security. Ofer is an active California State Fire Instructor for Technical Rescue and a lead USAR and Tactical Response instructor for his department and region. Lastly, Ofer believes that as we in the "first responder business" continue to redefine ourselves and truly become "all risk" we should embrace change and innovative programs that will allow us to better serve all our customers.

2:45 – 4:00

### ***Novel Wounding Patterns at Hostile Mass Violence Events, and EMS Best Practice Response***

**Dr. Mike Clumpner, PhD, MBA, NRP**  
*President and CEO,  
Threat Suppression Incorporated*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Mike Clumpner is the President and Chief Executive Officer at Threat Suppression, a public safety consulting firm headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is a 27-year veteran of public safety, with 24 years' experience as a career firefighter/paramedic. Mike currently serves as a full-time fire battalion chief with the Charlotte Fire Department where he is assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion- a battalion that responds to 25,000 emergencies every year. Mike is also a sworn law enforcement officer with the state's largest law enforcement agency and has spent the last 10 years assigned to the department's full-time, Type One SWAT team as an Operator/Senior Tactical Paramedic. Mike previously worked for nine years as a helicopter flight paramedic at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, a large Level One Trauma Center in South Carolina.

Mike has undergraduate degrees in fire science, paramedicine, and business administration. He has a master's degree in business administration from Elon University and a PhD in homeland security policy from Northcentral University. Mike authored the world's first and only doctoral dissertation on integrated active shooter response. Mike has researched active shooter and terrorist events since 2005, accumulating more than 17,000 hours of research. Mike currently serves as an active shooter subject matter expert for multiple federal agencies. Mike has authored numerous textbooks and journal articles, and he has presented at 300 conferences on four continents.

4:00 – 5:15

## ***Anticipating the Unthinkable***

**Carly Posey**

*Mission Director*

*The “I Love U Guys” Foundation*

### **Speaker Bio:**

Carly Posey is a national advocate for school safety. Two of her four children were inside Sandy Hook Elementary School when an armed man entered the building on December 13, 2012. The shooter made his way to her son’s first grade classroom, killing his teacher and a classmate. When he stopped to re-load, her son escaped, running to a nearby fire station. Her daughter, who remained hidden inside an art room office, also survived, but the lessons learned were significant. Carly’s other two children were at the intermediate school in Newton where they were in lockdown the entire school day. The lack of preparedness within the community to respond and recover to such an incident left a lasting impression.

Today, as Mission Director for the “I Love U Guys” Foundation, Carly travels the county sharing her story to promote school safety and preparedness. Her experience as a parent and a community member provide a compelling, often heartbreaking case study for the need to prepare for the unthinkable. Carly has previously served as the Executive Director for the Safe2Tell Nonprofit and as Program Director for Anderson Software. She now lives in Colorado with her husband, Dave, and their four children.



**Thursday, March 28, 2019**

8:00 – 8:45

***Changing the EMS Culture: Managing Risk in EMS***

**Jeffrey White, MS, MTSP-C, FP-C**

*Director of Safety- HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Inc.*

**Speaker Bio:**

Jeff has served twenty-two years in Emergency Medical Services and the Fire Service. He currently holds the position of Director of Safety for HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Inc. His career has spanned volunteer, career, rural and urban. Aside from his full-time position at HealthNet he is still providing clinical care and serves as a volunteer firefighter. He is an instructor for WVU Fire Service Extension and Spec Rescue International. Jeff also serves as a Hazardous Materials Specialist for OHTF-1, a deployable FEMA USAR team based in Dayton, Ohio.

8:45 – 9:30

***Training for Quality Improvement and Safety:  
The NAEMSP Quality and Safety Course***

**Michael Redlener, MD, FAEMS**

*St. Luke's and Mount Sinai West*

*Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine*

*Medical Director for EMS and Disaster Preparedness*

*Chair, National Association for EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)*

*Quality and Safety Committee*

**Scott Bourn, PhD, RN, FACHE**

*VP Clinical & Quality & Impact, ESO Solutions*

**Speaker Bio:**

**Michael Redlener, MD, FAEMS**

Michael Redlener, M.D., is an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Medical Director for EMS and Disaster Preparedness at Mount Sinai St. Luke's and Mount Sinai West Hospitals and Board-Certified in Emergency Medicine and EMS Medicine. Dr. Redlener received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, NY. He completed a residency program in Emergency Medicine at New York University/Bellevue Hospital followed by a fellowship in Pre-hospital and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medicine with the New York City Fire Department. Currently, Dr. Redlener is the Chair of the NYC REMAC Quality Improvement and Quality Assurance Committee and is the Chair of the NAEMSP Quality and Safety Committee and the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the NAEMSP Quality and Safety Course. He has a research and operational interest in EMS quality improvement, safety, and systems of care.

**Scott Bourn, PhD, RN, FACHE**

Scott Bourn PhD, RN, FACHE has a rich and diverse background in emergency medical services, 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, and senior clinical executive for two large national health delivery organizations. He has also published over 200 articles, columns, and video learning modules, and has delivered lectures throughout North America. His research, writing, and lecture topics focus on defining, measuring, and improving patient outcomes and experience.

Dr. Bourn has held numerous regional and national leadership positions including: Colorado State EMS and Trauma Advisory council for nine years (5 as Chair); National Association of EMS Educators Board 2007-2015 (President 2013-2015); Liaison to the National Association of EMS Physicians Board 2013-2015; Advocates for EMS Board 2010-2013 (President 2012-2013).

10:30 – 11:30

***Lightning and You- How Safe Are You?***

**Dave Aguilar, Broadcast Meteorologist**

**Barb Stemple, Survivor**

**Sheryl Olson, EMS Flight Nurse**

**Larry Moore, Retired ER Physician**

**Steven Clark, Meteorologist**

**Carl Swanson III, LDC Project Manager**

**Speaker Bio:**

Barb Stemple is a lightning strike survivor

**Speaker Bio:**

Sheryl Olson's clinical nursing career included 18 years as a helicopter flight nurse in Colorado. During that time, she transported and cared for many lightning strike victims while acutely aware of her own safety and the safety needs of all the people involved in the rescue. She now is a wilderness medicine and safety educator and speaks at conferences and teaches while on adventure trips around the world. She has led groups and lectured in places such as Machu Picchu, Everest Base Camp, Patagonia, Kilimanjaro and while on safari in Tanzania. Providing education on lightning and promoting safety in the out of doors continues to be her passion.

**Speaker Bio:**

Larry Moore, MD is a retired Emergency Medicine specialist, having worked in the Colorado Springs Centura Health Hospital System for 28 years. He also served as the physician advisor for Teller County EMS providers during that time. He has a long-standing interest in activities in the Colorado out of doors including

mountain biking, back-packing and hiking. Along with his wife Sheryl Olson he now provides wilderness medical education in a variety of locations including adventure trips to Central and South America, Nepal and Africa.

**Speaker Bio:**

Mr. Clark is the President of the Lightning Data Center and has been in practice as a forensic meteorologist since 1990. Mr. Clark has given presentations on meteorology and lightning to professional and civic organizations.

**Speaker Bio:**

Mr. Swanson is a Project Manager for the LDC and has given numerous presentations on lightning at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. He also

11:30 – 11:45

***Benefitting Our Patients by Using Mobile  
Broadband Communication: FirstNet is Here!***

**Brent Williams, Paramedic**

*Senior EMS Advisor, First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)*

**Speaker Bio:**

Brent Williams is the Senior EMS Advisor to FirstNet, the federal government agency charged with planning for and deploying a new mobile broadband communications system dedicated to public safety users. For 12 years prior to joining FirstNet in 2015, Brent served as the EMS Radio Communications Consultant to the EMS and Trauma Systems Section of the Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services. In that role, he served as the subject matter expert for the Department on EMS radio communication systems and requirements. During that same time, he also worked as an independent consultant for many local units of government, providing a diverse range of services related to radio communication system design.

Brent's "real world" public safety experience includes 11 years as a police patrol officer and over 20 years as a practicing paramedic. He retains his State of Michigan Paramedic License, first earned in 1978.

He served for 10 years as a member of the DHS SafeCom public safety communications advisory group and also fills the volunteer role of APCO "Local Frequency Advisor" for the State of Michigan. He has been an elected member of the Marshall, MI City Council, for 12 years.

12:45 – 2:00

***Essential Provider Skills and Behavioral Health  
Issues Facing First Responders and How to  
Become Resilient While Keeping Patients Safe***

**David Wiklanski, MA, FF/EMT (I)**

*Firefighter/EMT, New Brunswick Fire Department*

**Rhonda Kelly**

*Responder Strong,*

**Daniel Crampton, PsyD, Paramedic**

*Chief Operating Officer, Status: Code 4, Inc. (SC4i)*

**Lynn Garst**

*Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment,*

*Office of Emergency Preparedness*

**Bryan Fass, ATC, LAT, CSCS, EMT-P (Ret)**

*Fit Responder Founder & President*

**Speaker Bio:**

David Wiklanski is a Firefighter/EMT with the New Brunswick, NJ Fire Department, currently assigned to the suppression section. He has nearly twenty years in Emergency Services. Firefighter Wiklanski speaks internationally on psychological health, in addition to Suicide Terrorism. His mission is to end the stigma associated with mental health and to connect responders with the available resources to not only survive but thrive in their careers.

FF/EMT Wiklanski has a BA in Psychology from Kean University, and an MA in Behavioral Sciences-Human Behavior and Organizational Psychology from Kean University. He is on faculty at Kean University and Raritan Valley Community College where he regularly lectures on all aspects of Psychology. He holds certifications as a Fire Instructor II and EMT Instructor. He is also an NJ National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) Advocate. He is the owner of Alpha Omega Training Solutions.

**Speaker Bio:**

ResponderStrong™: A Movement for Emergency Responder Mental Health in Colorado and How You Can Help

Rhonda Kelly spent 17 years as a firefighter/paramedic in Colorado before joining the National Mental Health Innovation Center (NMHIC) through gracious offer from Director Matt Vogl to manage the ResponderStrong™ program. Her background includes emergency and psychological nursing, research, and stints as an oceanographer. During the last 5 years of her fire career, she served as the Health & Safety Officer, a position that allowed her to explore her growing interest in the mental well-being of responders. ResponderStrong grew out of that interest. A collaboration between emergency responders and the NMHIC, ResponderStrong is developing better mental health supports for responders and their families across Colorado. Over the past several years, suicide has been recognized as the leading occupational killer of law enforcement, fire and EMS. ResponderStrong is unique in its approach to addressing mental health issues among responders in that it is responder-driven and works across branches, connecting groups that had previously been siloed. Together, we are stronger.

**Speaker Bio:**

Daniel Crampton has been working in EMS since 1993, first as a volunteer fire fighter and then as a paid paramedic. He experienced a series of critical incidents that led to posttraumatic stress injuries. During that time, he found that the resources available to First Responders was significantly lacking. He chose to dedicate his education to developing the training in trauma and counseling. He eventually earned his Doctorate in Psychology and founded SC4i, a nonprofit 501c3 organization specializing in counseling First Responders and their families who are dealing with consequences of the job.

**Speaker Bio:**

Lynn Garst

**Speaker Bio:**

Bryan Fass has dedicated the past 10 years to changing the culture of Fire-EMS & Law Enforcement from one of pain, injury and disease to one of ergonomic excellence and provider wellness. Bryan has leveraged his Sports medicine, Athletic Training, Spine Rehabilitation, Strength & Conditioning and Paramedic experience to become the expert on pre-hospital patient handling & equipment handling & first responder fitness. Bryan is leading the charge nationally to reduce injury & risk in first responders while improving provider wellness. His passion, education, dedication and experience has helped to change the culture of public safety nationally.

2:00 – 2:45

***Time Outs and Ground EMS: Managing Fatigue  
in an Unpredictable Environment***

**Justin Koper, MS, GSP, MTSP-C, FP-C**  
*HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Safety Officer*

**Speaker Bio:**

Justin Koper serves as the Safety Officer for HealthNet Aeromedical Services based out of Charleston, WV. He is a graduate of West Virginia University where he obtained a master's degree in Safety Management and is also a lecturer in the Safety Management graduate program where he teaches Healthcare Safety Management. Also, he is a 2016 graduate of the AAMS Safety Management Training Academy (SMTA) where he received the 2016 Tim Hynes Foundation SMTA Scholarship and subsequently obtained certification as a Medical Transport Safety Professional (MTSP-C).

3:15 – 4:00

***Are you Hiring Your Next Injury? Physical Abilities Testing for EMS Providers***

**Bryan Fass, ATC, LAT, CSCS, EMT-P (Ret)**

**Speaker Bio:**

See above

4:00 – 5:00

***Violence and the Use of Force in Medicine, Is it Really an Issue?***

**Jason Brooks, BAS, EMT-P, I/C**  
*DT4EMS, LLC President/CEO*

**Speaker Bio:**

Jason Brooks, BAS, EMT-P, I/C is the owner of DT4EMS, LLC and a recognized subject matter expert of violence in healthcare. As a veteran Paramedic and healthcare educator with 22 years of experience, Jason has presented across the country in the reasonable use of force when escaping a violent encounter.

5:00 – 5:30

***EMS Provider Safety in A Crowd***

**Peter I. Dworsky, MPH, EMT-P, CEM**

*President Outcome Solutions*  
*President International Association of EMS Chiefs*

**Speaker Bio:**

Peter Dworsky has been working in public safety and health, emergency management and disaster preparedness for the past thirty years, starting as a volunteer member of a college-based ambulance in Albany, followed by being a paramedic in New York City at St. Clare's Hospital and the Paramedic Director for Jersey City Medical Center. After leaving JCMC EMS, He was Director of EMS and Disaster Preparedness for Saint Barnabas Health Care System and responsible for the system's emergency management functions and BLS 911 services.

After a merger, he was named the Corporate Director Support Services for MONOC and oversaw safety, OSHA compliance, Emergency Management and Business Continuity, Risk Management and injury prevention with a focus on reducing costs and negative outcomes for providers, patients and the organization. In addition to these responsibilities he was also the Safety Officer for the State EMS Task Force and a Deputy OEM Coordinator for Monmouth County and sits on the State's EMS Safety Committee and the Federal Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council under the Office of Homeland Security.

Peter's education includes a master's degree in Public Health from New York Medical College and a bachelor's degree in EMS Management from Hahnemann University. He is an OSHA Certified Safety Professional, a certified Business Continuity Resilience Planner and a health risk manager.

He is on the Advisory Board for the EMS Safety Foundation and a member of the NAEMT Safety Committee. Additionally, he is an Adjunct Professor at Kean University in their Community Health and Disaster Management program. Over the years, he has published numerous text book chapters and articles related to EMS and emergency management and routinely speaks at state and national conferences.



## **Friday, March 29, 2019**

8:00 – 8:30

### ***Update on the NEMSMA Health and Safety Officer Credentials***

**Peter I. Dworsky**

#### **Speaker Bio:**

See above

8:30 – 9:30

### ***Who Ya Gonna Call? Legal Requirements for Safety Officers Compliance***

**Matthew R. Streger, Esq., MPA, NRP**  
*Attorney at Law, Keavney & Streger, LLC*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Matthew R. Streger is a paramedic and attorney with more than thirty years of EMS experience. Matthew is a Partner at the law firm of Keavney & Streger in New Jersey and focuses his practice on the needs of EMS agencies and 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.

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 has 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 currently sits on the Panel of Commissioners for CAAS and is a member of the CAAS standards review 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.

9:30 – 10:15

### ***Uncomfortable Truths About EMS Leadership***

**Michael W. Donner, BSBA**  
*Apex Paramedics, President and CEO*

**Speaker Bio:**

Michael Donner has been in EMS for over 36 years as a field provider, Corporate risk manager and ambulance company owner. He currently owns Apex Paramedics. Mike has lectured nationally on various EMS subjects including; “Risk Management from the Top Down”, “So, You Want to Start an Ambulance Company”, “Managing a Cash Flow Crisis” and “Selling Your EMS Debt”. He is an avid golfer, trained chef and wine sommelier and the human friend of Spike the Wonder Dog.

10:30 – 11:15

***Emergent Response: A Dangerous Epidemic in EMS*****Dave McGowen, ASHM****Speaker Bio:**

David McGowan is an accomplished Ambulance Safety Consultant that provides industry leading solutions for ambulance operators here in the US and Europe. With over 40 years of experience in Emergency Medical Services, he brings a wealth of experience as an accomplished administrator. He has extensive background in operations, communications, business development, systems quality and patient – provider safety. Mr. McGowan’s client base includes some of the largest fire and EMS services in the country. He also partners with manufactures, educational institutions, government agencies and legal firms.

Among other distinctions in the field, he is recognized nationally for his expertise in highly successful ambulance safety programs. He has had many speaking engagements throughout his tenure at national and state level EMS conferences. In addition, he has authored numerous publications papers, blogs and webinars.

Mr. McGowan holds an undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business Leadership and Management and is also certified in Safety and Health Management by the Institute for Safety and Health Management.

11:15 -12:00

***The Safe Transport of Children in Ambulances*****Jason Kotas, NREMT, CPST**  
*The Children’s Hospital Colorado*  
*Outreach and Education Manager***Speaker Bio:**

Jason Kotas has been a member of the Colorado EMS family for over eighteen years holding many clinical based positions in the field as well as numerous leadership roles. He recently served as an EMS Captain for Grand County EMS and is currently the EMS Outreach and Education Program Manager at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Jason holds a governor appointed position on the Colorado Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council, co-chairs the Colorado

State EMS Conference Committee as well as serves on many local EMS advisory boards. He is a husband, father, cancer survivor, frequent concert goer and believes strongly in the healing power of laughter.

12:45 -1:15

### ***Fire Fighter Medical Fitness for Duty – Is it Relevant to the EMS Profession?***

**Thomas Hales, MD, MPH**

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),  
NIOSH, Medical Officer*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Hales received his BA degree from Stanford University, his MD degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and his master's in public health (MPH) degree from University of California Berkeley in epidemiology. He is board certified in internal medicine and occupational/environmental medicine. For the past 18 years he has investigated fire fighter line-of-duty deaths as part of the NIOSH Fire Fighter Program and been a member of the NIOSH research team studying the relationship between firefighting and cancer. He has served on the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Service Occupational Safety, the IAFF Advisory Board for Hazmat and WMD training, the task force developing ACOEM's Guidance for the Medical Evaluation of Law Enforcement Officer, and the Vice-Chair of ACOEM Public Safety Medicine Section. In 2015, he received the National Excellence in Research Award from the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation. He has published extensively in the peer review scientific literature and published hundreds of government reports.

1:15 – 2:00

### ***EMS Safety Culture, “What Do You Mean I Should Measure It?”***

**Lee Varner, MSEMS, CPPS, EMT-P**

*Patient Safety Director, EMS Services  
Center for Patient Safety*

#### **Speaker Bio:**

Lee Varner is the Director of EMS services at the Center for Patient Safety. Lee holds both a bachelor's and a Master's Degree of Science in EMS from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. He became an EMT while serving in the Air Force and started his EMS career in Omaha, Nebraska. Lee has been a flight paramedic for a hospital-based air medical service and also served at the St. Charles County Ambulance District for over 20 years. He then became the EMS Coordinator for Mercy Hospital in Saint Louis and later started his career at

the Center for Patient Safety. Lee is a Certified Professional in Patient Safety and a Just Culture trainer. In the past 4 years he has developed innovative approaches and campaigns to reduce preventable harm in EMS. This includes the EMSFORWARD campaign and co-development of the EMS Safety Culture Assessment. Lee is also a founding member of the National EMS Safety Council and an active member of the NAEMT.

2:00 – 3:00

***Look How Far We've Come.....?***

**Matthew Streger**

3:15 - 4:00

***Safety Considerations at Active Shooter and Mass Casualty Events***

**A J Heightman**

4:00 – 4:30

***Angst Management: Loving The Best Job in The World***

**Thom Dick**

**Speaker Bio:**

Thom Dick retired in 2013 after a 43-year career as a full-time ambulance driver, EMT, paramedic and quality improvement leader in California and Colorado. He was one of the four original staff members of JEMS, and authored four books and more than 500 articles in a dozen journals on the care, dignity and safety of sick people, their families and their field caregivers



***Thank you for attending this year's Safety Summit  
See you Next Year!***