



Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
Meeting held virtually via Zoom  
September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Those present were (All attendees were present via Zoom):

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Alex Stephenson                               | astephenson@pwcgov.org             |
| Babak Sarani                                  | bsarani@mfa.gwu.edu                |
| Beth Adams                                    | beth.adams@fairfaxcounty.gov       |
| Brian Hricik                                  | brian.hricik@alexandriava.gov      |
| Brian Orndoff                                 | brian.orndoff@fairfaxva.gov        |
| Chip Morrison                                 | cmorrison@pwcgov.org               |
| Christopher Cook                              | chris.cook@novaha.org              |
| Cindy Parise                                  | cjparise@sentara.com               |
| Courtney Caton                                | ccaton@vhchealth.org               |
| Craig French                                  | craig.french@inova.org             |
| Cullen Rector                                 | cullen.rector@mwa.com              |
| Dynette Rombough                              | dxrombou@sentara.com               |
| Elizabeth Franco                              | elizabeth.franco@inova.org         |
| John Morgan                                   | john.morgan@loudoun.gov            |
| John Wanamaker /Stone Springs Hospital Center | john.wanamaker@hcahealthcare.com   |
| Justin Nelson                                 | jnelson@virginiahospitalcenter.com |
| Kari Scantlebury                              | karibury@gmail.com                 |
| Kate Kramer                                   | kkramer@arlingtonva.us             |
| Kim Klein                                     | kim.klein@inova.org                |
| Laura Vandegrift NVEMSC                       | laura@vaems.org                    |
| Lindsay Jacobs                                | lindsay.jacobs@loudoun.gov         |
| Margaret Probst                               | margaret@vaems.org                 |
| Melinda Myers                                 | melinda.myers@inova.org            |
| Nate Strong                                   | nstrong@pwcgov.org                 |
| Nathan Kee. ILH Trauma                        | nathan.kee@inova.org               |
| Neha Sullivan                                 | nsullivan@pwcgov.org               |
| Philippa Durham                               | philippa.durham@fairfaxcounty.gov  |
| Shirley Riggsbee                              | shirley.riggsbee@inova.org         |
| Stephanie Boese                               | stephanie.boese@gwu-hospital.com   |
| Tracey Taylor                                 | tracey.taylor@hcahealthcare.com    |
| Valerie Vagts                                 | vagts@vaems.org                    |

The PI and Trauma Committee meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Dr. Elizabeth Franco.

### ***Approval of the Minutes***

Minutes from June 8, 2022, were sent via email before the meeting for review.

- **Motion to approve the minutes as written by Stephanie Boese**

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- **Seconded by Beth Adams**
- ***The Motion was unanimously approved***

***RHCC Presentation – Chris Cook, RHCC Manager, Northern Virginia RHCC***

Chris Cook presented an overview of the RHCC Northern Virginia region, its functions, and capabilities

***Trauma Topic – Mass Casualty Incidents***

MWAA Drill at Reagan National Airport earlier this year

- Cullen Rector provided the following information
  - Every three years they have rotating MCI drills at Dulles and Reagan, last year was Dulles, this year was Reagan, then they'll take a year off and start over
  - They are improving each year with these drills by moving patients and spreading out patients around to different hospitals
    - They initially transported to facilities, but now do a staged facility on the premises
  - They typically have a good turnout to test the system
  - Most constructive criticism is the recent change internally in moving from EMS Supervisors to a new position and how to transition with that
    - They also noticed that mutual aid partners were light on independently knowing how to engage upon arrival on the scene from triage forward and are working on that
  - They don't keep large amounts of supplies on their units anymore; they use more of an Israeli model where a unit pulls up and gets two red patients and moves on so there is no need for excessive supplies on individual units
    - During their exercise, most patients were off-scene within 20 minutes

VHC/Arlington Four Courts Pub Incident, August 12, 2022

- Courtney Caton presented their incident at the Four Courts Pub in Arlington
  - They received 6 patients out of 15 on scene
    - One patient went to GWU, the remainder were refusals on scene
  - They had 2 trauma surgeons and 2 trauma PAs present
    - Thankfully it was around shift change time so there was double staffing in the ED and day shift staff was asked by Nursing Supervisor and OR Supervisor to stay until the "all clear" called
  - The "Facility alert – emergency activation plan operational" page was not received by all necessary parties and some were not made aware until several hours later
    - Multi-Trauma pages vs MCI pages need to be different in the future
    - They are working on that in their after-action review
    - Many people who got the pages weren't sure what they were supposed to do based on the page
  - They are working on determining the acceptable number of patients to accept in each color range

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- They will perform a communication drill to ensure the communication aspect is done properly and then conduct a full physical drill later
- Kate Kramer from Arlington County FD advised the BC who was on the scene was not able to present a report today
  - Kate was on maternity leave and not present but listened to the radio traffic
    - There are 11 ePCRs for this incident
    - One patient to Fairfax, remainder to VHC, many treated and released

**Hospitals/Agencies with MCI activations in the last year**

- Loudoun Hospital did a tabletop Active shooter drill – full MCI first of the year – Kim Klein
- Loudoun County Fire & Rescue had an RHCC activation on June 1, 2022, for a bomb threat, a super hot day so heat symptoms for the evacuees.
  - Chris Cook advised there were only 2 transports from the scene, 1 adult and one pediatric; initially thought to be 4 yellows
  - On January 31 Loudoun also had a CO alarm activation – 14 patients initially, but 10 total transports to Inova Loudoun; wide range of pediatric and adult
  - December 2021 there was pepper spray activation in a night club but this was quickly resolved
- Chip Morrison from Prince William County advised they had Hazmat with approximately 15 patients and 8-10 transports about 18 months ago
- MWAA reports they have had no activations but had an incident in the spring that may have warranted a call that wasn't made
  - On a similar note – They had an extremely positive experience with RHCC during the Afghanistan crisis and hope mutual aid partners have the same perception and hopefully in a weird non-standard situation can utilize them again
- Chris Cook from RHCC advised there was a recently overturned bus in Caroline County that resulted in transports to Spotsylvania and Stafford area and some to VCU, worked with adjacent regions for transports
  - There was another unique event where students went home from college but all patients were transported from home with similar illnesses, but it created an increase in patients in hospitals that would have been a single incident had they been in one place
  - There was also a recent incident in the Western part of Fauquier County where an RV and Tractor Trailer collided and there were 9 patients.
    - There was a lot of mutual aid from other counties and patients were taken to several hospitals including one fly-out to Fairfax
- Sentara NVMC advised there have been none
  - StoneSprings Hospital also advised there have been none
  - Fairfax Hospital Dr. Franco advised they recently had 3 incidents with multiple trauma patients at one time
    - All with significant injuries and despite how they arrived (no activation or modified) they were all full alerts in the end

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- They have discussed triage criteria and it seems like all criteria were met; sometimes alerts weren't called because all staff was in the ED
- Tracey Taylor from Reston Hospital advised they have no MCI to report, but they are doing an MCI drill in October and decon training next week

### **Triage Tags**

NVEMSC currently stocks and sells MWCOG triage tags in the region. We need to place a new order and the minimum is 30,000. There was a question of whether to add a grey category to coincide with SALT triage in case anyone is planning to change to that. Is there anyone who has a concern for or against that change?

- Brian Orndoff – leave off grey unless we go back and change the regional triage platform in the manual with NVERS and continue to use the tag in the form we have unless we uniformly change it to SALT. At this time, everyone in our region is currently using START
  - Brian Hricik seconds his comment
    - The State talked about it but has not made a change in the State Triage Plan yet
    - Instead of having to retrain everyone for a new tag, it's easier to continue with what we have now, and will address purchasing different tags in the future if needed

### **Discussion of the Committee and Roundtable**

Question: September is Mass Casualty Awareness Month, does your hospital or agency do any public outreach or public education on this topic?

- Brian Hricik from Alexandria FD advised they don't do anything for MCI month
- Kate Kramer from Arlington FD advised they don't do anything for MCI month
- Brian Orndoff from the City of Fairfax FD also advised they don't do anything for MCI month
- Beth Adams from Fairfax County FD advised the same
- Dr. Morgan from Loudoun County FD advised nothing for public outreach on this topic
- Chip Morrison from Prince William FD advised the same
- Cullen Rector from MWAA stated they have training twice a year geared toward MCIs but do not do specific outreach on it
- Inova
  - Dr. Franco advised they receive emails to sign up for emergency alerts for MCIs for an updated phone tree
  - Dr. Scantlebury stated the Emergency Management Department uses September for disaster preparedness and hurricane preparedness month
  - Kim Klein from Loudoun stated they are busy making emergency kits
- John Wanamaker from Stone Springs stated they have a continuous process with the ED and keep all informed of disasters and remain in close contact with NVERS
- Tracey Taylor from Reston Hospital stated they have nothing planned

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
September 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- Cindy Parise from Sentara NVMC stated they have nothing planned
- Courtney Caton from VHC said that in light of the incident last month, they have scheduled meetings to firm up the communications aspect of MCI

**Future Meetings and Topics**

The last Regional Trauma/PI meeting for 2022 is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022.

- Topics for the future
  - Circle back to see what we have done/implemented and if it has made a difference. Are we still doing it?
  - Franco – multiply injured in a crash, same vehicle; seat belt use, front seat vs. back seat, airbag, rollover
    - Dr. Sullivan added car seat usage and do all school busses have seatbelts

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 am

**CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND TRAUMA MEETING**

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
7250 Heritage Village Plaza, Ste. 102  
Gainesville, VA 20155

I, Michelle Ludeman, Regional Coordinator of the Northern Virginia EMS Council certify that the above minutes are a true and correct transcript of the minutes of the Performance Improvement and Trauma Meeting of the Northern Virginia EMS Council on September 14, 2022. The minutes were officially approved on December 7, 2022, at the meeting of the Committee.

*Michelle L Ludeman*

Michelle Ludeman  
Northern Virginia EMS Council

12 / 7 / 2022

Date