



CMEMSC Newsletter

REGION II RESPONDER

Another Great Annual Meeting of Corporate Members & EMS Awards Night is in the Books

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Central Mass EMS is required to hold an Annual Meeting of the Corporate Members to conduct the organization's business. Fortunately, the evening also gives us the opportunity to thank our members and recognize outstanding individuals and organizations. Attendance once again exceeded the previous year's total, with more than 160 guests joining us. It was a wonderful chance to connect with our corporate members in person and, thankfully, not have to worry about making quorum.

The recently renovated Elks function room, with its fresh paint and new carpeting, provided a beautiful setting for the evening. Following a delicious buffet dinner, keynote speaker Tim Redding delivered a thought-provoking presentation. His discussion of how we can normalize deviance and fall victim to our own biases gave attendees plenty to reflect on, whether they were department leaders, field providers, or family members outside of public safety.

CMEMSC officers, along with several guest presenters, shared truly moving stories behind the awards presented that evening. Senator Michael Moore, Representative John Marsi, and Dan Hickey, District Director for Senator Peter Durant, each presented citations in person to recipients from their districts. Other honorees also received citations in advance of the meeting.

After the awards ceremony, the annual meeting formally began with Ricci Hall's first report as CMEMSC president, followed by reports from each subcommittee. The meeting concluded with the nomination slate for the Board of Directors, officers, and committee chairs, along with a small bylaw amendment. At the May Board Meeting, summer meetings were suspended, and the evening ended with the drawing of our lucky raffle winners.

A great deal of work goes into planning an event like this and creating an elegant atmosphere on a very modest budget, but it is always worth it when we see the smiles, laughter, hugs, and handshakes. Be sure to check out the photos on the following pages.



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Franklin Fire and Police were presented the **EMS Service/Organization of the Year Award** for their exceptional teamwork that saved then 5-week-old baby Gianna, who they had the pleasure of visiting with again as a healthy 3-month-old.

Athletic Trainers, **Molly McLean** and **Greg White** were honored as our **Citizen Bystanders of the Year** along with a first responder commendation to **Officer Ryan White** (not pictured) for saving the life of a student athlete in cardiac arrest.



Templeton Police Officer **Caleb Matson** was recognized as the **First Responder of the Year** for his fast-acting, life-saving actions at a motorcycle accident with major traumatic injuries to the driver.



Top:
Brian Henrich received the EMT of the Year Award for his exceptional dedication to the Princeton Fire Department and its citizens.



Middle:
Scott Rudman was honored for his unwavering commitment to the people he serves as an Advanced EMT on the Oxford Fire Department.



Bottom:
Scott Davis was presented the Paramedic of the Year for his heroic actions during an active shooter/SWAT mission that saved the life of a police sergeant that was shot.



Top:
Stephanie Dvareckas was honored for her exceptional calm professionalism, and command of the radio, even under intense pressure as the lead dispatcher in Oxford.



Middle:
Dr. Christian Williams was honored with the Special Service/EMS Clinician of the Year for tireless support of the mental health and well-being of first responders and their families, that promotes resilience, healing, and long-term wellness for those who serve our communities.



Bottom:
John Brenahan was honored as the EMS Educator of the Year for his exceptional ability to shape capable, confident EMS professionals as a paramedic instructor and clinical coordinator at Mount Wachusett Community College.

Save the Date
 Annual Meeting of Corporate Members and EMS Awards

Tuesday, May 4, 2027

This will be Central Mass EMS' 50th Anniversary so we expect to have a little extra fun with this one. Mark your calendar now!





Top:
Hilary Towne was recognized as the EMS Public Educator of the Year for her initiative, creativity, and a deep commitment to connecting with the residents of Oxford through education, prevention, and accessibility.



Middle:
Wardwell "Burt" Cox was honored with the EMS Leadership Award for his intelligent, respectful, and collaborative approach to an extraordinarily complex situation that ultimately ended with the best possible outcome for the Spencer Rescue Squad and the citizens they serve.



Bottom:
More than a dozen people nominated **Stephanie Hilliger**, and she was presented the Special Service award for the profound and lasting impact she has made on the Nashoba Regional High School Cadet EMT Program.

Though State Representative Kimberly Ferguson was unable to attend the ceremony, she was presented with the Director's Award. Representative Ferguson, pictured to the right at the dedication ceremony for our 9/11 memorial, has been a great advocate for the Regional EMS Council. She has been instrumental in getting the Legislative and Community Relation Committee on track and starting our annual Legislative Briefings to ensure EMS issues are brought to our legislators. As Kim retires this year, she will be sorely missed by the Region.



Current Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Chairs

Term Expiration 2029

Adam Darnobid, MD	St. Vincent Hospital
Colby Fiske, Paramedic	West Boylston Fire
Donna Auger, NRP	UMass at MRMC
Margy Diaz, EMT	Bolton Fire
Stephen Coleman, Chief	Auburn Fire
Kelly Manning, RN, NRP	Douglas Fire
Jason Osborne, RN, EMT	UMass Southbridge
Jasson Bangma, Chief	Mendon

Term Expiration 2028

James Courtney, DO	UMass at MRMC
Robert Bourque, NRP	MedStar Ambulance
Dan Hehir, NRP	Westborough
Martin Scott, NRP	Winchendon
Cameron Milewski, NRP	Townsend
Michael Struppa, Paramedic	Southbridge
Erik Ares, Paramedic	Sterling

Term Expiration 2027

Joe Flanagan, Chief	Boylston
Ricci Hall, Paramedic	Oxford
Seth Knipe, Chief	Rutland
Richard Golden, NRP	Bellingham
Timothy Kelly, Chief	Devens
David Messier, Chief	East Brookfield
Timothy Howe, Chief	Oakham

Board of Directors: Serve 3-year terms. After serving 3 terms they must wait 1 year until they can seek re-election.

Officers

Term Expiration 2026

Kelly Manning, RN, NRP Treasurer

Term Expiration 2027

Ricci Hall, Paramedic	President
Stephen Coleman, Chief	Vice President
Donna Auger, NRP	Secretary

Officers: Shall serve for a term of **2 years** or until their successor is elected. If the Officer's term of office as Director is scheduled to expire while an Officer, their term will be extended to the expiration of their term of office as an Officer. Officers may only serve for 2-consecutive 2-year terms in the same position.

Committee Chairs

Expires in 2027

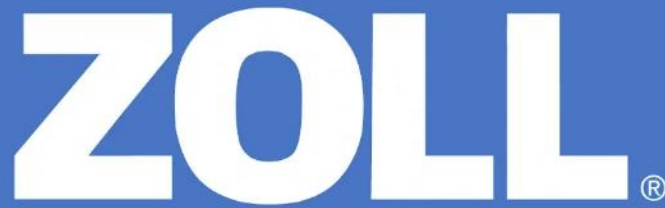
Richard Golden, NRP	<u>Committee</u> Medical Services
Timothy Kelly, Chief	EMS Training & Education
Daniel Hehir, NRP	EMS Communication/MCI Planning
Jason Osborne, RN	Legislative & Community Relations

Committee Chairs: Each elected Chairperson shall serve for a term of one year. An elected Chairperson is eligible to be re-elected by the Members to additional one-year terms as long as they are serving on the BOD.

Permanent Board Seats by Position

Immediate Past President:	Colby Fiske, Paramedic
Medical Director:	John Broach, MD
Executive Director:	Tina Dixon

THANK YOU to our Sponsors that Made the EMS Awards Night Possible! Click each logo for links to their sites.



ZOLL®



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Fiske's Emergency
Medical Training



GIFFORD
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COMMUNICATIONS

CMED Call of the Month

On Easter Sunday, a crew called in for medical control for orders to cease resuscitation efforts. After giving a full ACLS report and requesting their orders, the doctor asked, "What, you don't believe in Easter miracles?" The crew replied, "No, I don't think this is going to be our day." ... maybe they give it three days and reassess?



BDLS - Basic Disaster Life Support class
University of Massachusetts Chan
Medical School
July 14, 2026



This course is open to anyone who is interested in disasters. There are OEMS credits available. There is pre-course work, and you must pre-register. Use this [link](#) or the QR code for more information or to register.

2026/27 Subcommittee Meeting Schedule

The Board of Directors and subcommittees take the summer off from regular meetings to avoid the issue of quorum during vacation season. Meetings resume in September unless an urgent need arises before then. All are welcome at our meetings. They are posted on the [website](#). Corporate members can join subcommittees as voting members by emailing the committee chairs. Meetings are hybrid for convenience, though in-person is always encouraged.

Board of Directors	1 st Thursday; 4pm
Medical Services	1 st Thursday; 3pm
Training & Education	1 st Thursday; 2pm
EMS Communications & MCI Planning	3 rd Wednesday; 3pm
Legislative & Community Relations	3 rd Wednesday; 4pm

Can You Spare 5 Minutes to Help the Region?

As you have probably heard from us before, the EMS Council's funding from the state is woefully inadequate. The Region 3 Council closed last year because of it and the rest of the Councils are threatened with the same. Our budget amendment in the House failed so our last hope for the FY 27 budget rests in a Senate amendment. If you enjoy the work that Central Mass EMS provides like our Learning Management System, our Training Officers Workshop, the EMS Awards, among many others, please let it be known. Please take a few minutes for an email or phone call to ask your Senator to support **Budget Amendment ID: FY2027-S4-394**. The more people that reach out, the more value they will see in it. You can find your Senator and their contact info [here](#). You can find more information on our [website](#).

ACR: Advanced Cardiac Resuscitation Masterclass

Join Joe Powell, Chair of the ACR Advisory Board, to learn about the underlying science and practical application of [Advanced Cardiac Resuscitation \(ACR\)](#).

- Unlearning Cardiac Arrest: Learn the science and the "why" behind the Advanced Cardiac Resuscitation (ACR) cardiac survivability tools and hear how you can implement an ACR program in your community.
- Behind the Science: Just as important is the "how" behind the ACR cardiac survivability tools and learning about their practical application.

This one-day program will be offered at the following locations, 0900–1530 each day.

June 9 and 11 at:

Worcester EMS Training

1013 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01603

June 10 at:

Central Mass EMS Corporation

361 Holden Street
Holden, MA 01520



Scan or Click the QR code for either location.





Bob Gifford did a great job capturing the night in pictures. Here are a few more. Top from left to right: Richard Golden is the Medical Services Chair. Tim Redding delivered a thought-provoking keynote address. Colby Fiske stood in for Training & Education chair, Tim Kelly. Below Clockwise from Top: The CEMLEC SWAT team turned out for a great show of support for Paramedic of the Year, Scott Davis. We had a full house again this year. Dan Hehir presented his report for the MCI Planning & EMS Communications Committee and Jason Osborne delivered his first report form the Legislative & Community Relations Committee, both with President Ricci Hall in the background.



Enjoy a Few Last Pictures from the Annual Meeting & Awards Night Courtesy of Gifford Productions

