

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2020

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ward, Hogan, Haff, Hicks, O'Brien, Clary, Rozell

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPERVISORS: Hall, Henke, Ferguson, Shaw, Campbell

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing Director

Tony Jordan, District Attorney

Glen Gosnell, Director Public Safety

Tim Hardy, Deputy Director Public Safety

Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator

John Graham, Code Enforcement Admin.

Anthony White, Probation Director

Mike Mercure, Public Defender

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Accept Minutes – November 26, 2019
3. Department Reports/Requests:
 - A. Coroners
 - 1) Discuss Additional Fees – Autopsy/Morgue Services
 - B. Alternative Sentencing
 1. Department Update
 - C. Code Enforcement
 1. Discuss County Issued Cell Phones for Department
 2. Permit Renewal Form Updates
 - D. Public Safety
 1. Project Updates – Homeland Security Grant; CAD System
 2. 911 Communications Center Activity Reports
 - E. District Attorney
 1. Request Permission for Vacation Carryover for Staff Member
 - F. Sheriff
 1. Request Resolution Opposing Bail Reform
 - G. Public Defender
 1. ILS Funding Update
 2. ILS Immigration Grant
 3. Assistant Public Defender Position Opening/Backfill
 4. Request Permission to Provide Lunch for Inter Department Meeting
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the November 26, 2019 meeting was moved by Mr. Rozell, seconded by Mr. Hogan and adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS /REQUESTS:

CORONERS –

- Additional Fees – Autopsy/Morgue Services – When the morgue at the Glens Falls Hospital is full there is a removal fee to transport to M.B. Kilmer's refrigeration unit. The hospital plans to increase their storage capacity and this will only be temporary. As of January 1, 2020, the cost to use M.B. Kilmer's refrigeration unit and removal to and from the hospital are as follows:
 - Removal from Glens Falls Hospital to M.B. Kilmer's Refrigeration unit \$100
 - Refrigeration is \$50 per day
 - Removal from M.B. Kilmer's refrigeration unit back to Glens Falls Hospital \$100

A motion to forward additional Coroner's fees to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Haff and adopted.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Community Service Update:
 - Finished painting Easton Town Hall
 - Next Granville – halfway house
- Winter Fest scheduled for Saturday February 1st at Lake Lauderdale.
- Risk Assessment – Explained how Alternative Sentencing conducts a risk assessment on a client, handouts attached of initial and follow up assessments. Determining the level of risk that this person is going to reoffend; likelihood of committing an offense.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – John Graham, Code Enforcement Administrator, addressed the following items:

- Discuss County Issued Cell Phones for Department – The department does not have cell phones; they can only be reached by the office phone number and they do not want to use their personal cell phones. Would like cell phones for the department. They are also getting laptops for their work in the field replacing their desktop units scheduled for replacement. Estimated the cost to be about \$2500 per year for everyone to have cell phones. There are seven employees in the department. No funds in the budget for this expense. A motion to send request to purchase cell phones and budget amendment to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.
- Permit Renewal Form Updates – Started sending out permit renewal forms for any open permit applications from 2015 forward. Sample amendment/renewal of application for building permit letter attached. There are approximately two thousand (2000) open permits back to 1985.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Glen Gosnell, Director, addressed the following items, handout attached.

- Project Updates – Homeland Security Grant Project Update, handout attached listing the various grants. They continue to maximize their grant funds and are on schedule will all grants and reports. Requesting to move unspent FY19 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funds into the 2020 budget. A motion to forward budget amendment to move unspent FY19 EMPG funds forward to 2020 in the amount of \$28,084 to the Finance Committee was moved by Mrs. Clary, seconded by Mr. Hicks and adopted.
- Radio System Project - Working with vendor to continue upgrade project.
- CAD System Project – Continue to work with vendor on outstanding issues.
- Extend PSAP Telephony Contract – Current contract expired 12/31/19 and requesting and extension, 01/01/2020 – 12/31/2020, at a cost of \$4,965.60. Funding included in 2020 budget. Switching from Verizon to Motorola with upgrade of the 911 systems. A motion to approve extension to PSAP Telephony reporting system contract for the period 1/1/20 – 12/31/20 in the amount of \$4,965.60 was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.
- Communications Microwave System/Network Maintenance Contract - Completed initial period of maintenance and warranty and requesting to contract with lowest quote for maintenance services. A motion to approve contracting with lowest quote for preventative microwave network maintenance, service and support for two (2) years at a cost of \$27,000

per year was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted. This is funded under their SICG (Statewide Interoperable Communications) grant program.

- Photogrammetry/Mapping System/Application – They have secured grant funding through their EMPG grant for photogrammetry and aerial mapping services for Public Safety and the Sheriff's Department for the UAS program (drones) at a cost of \$6,000. A motion to approve moving forward with EMPG grant funding for photogrammetry/mapping system applications in the amount of \$6,000 was moved, seconded and adopted.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Tony Jordan, District Attorney, addressed the following items:

- Request Permission for Vacation Carryover for Staff Member – Request for Chief Assistant District Attorney to carry over 48 hours of vacation time due to the changes in discovery and bail and the intense training the last four months of the year. A motion to approve the Chief Assistant District Attorney carrying over 48 hours of vacation time was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.
- Will send out an invitation/email to the Drug Court graduation ceremony that will take place on February 19th.

SHERIFF – Sheriff Murphy addressed the following items with the committee:

- Request Resolution Opposing Bail Reform – A motion to present a resolution opposing bail reform was moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Rozell. Discussion. The committee would like to see the proposed wording prior to the Board meeting. A motion to present a resolution opposing bail reform and forward to the Finance Committee for discussion was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Rozell and adopted.
- Black Creek – The Black Creek system controls the cameras system and all security in the Jail. Requesting a waiver from the Procurement Policy to continue to contract with them for their services. A motion to forward request for waiver for continuation of Black Creek contracted services to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.
- Congratulated Sheriff Murphy on being elected President of the NYS Sheriff's Association.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Mike Mercure, Director, addressed the following items:

- ILS Funding Update – The Public Defender is working on a project with the County Administrator and County Treasurer and will present a full overview of the ILS funding next month. Receiving \$678,523.00 to be credited to the 2019 budget for past due funding that they held off on to maximize their Hurrell-Harring funding.
- ILS Immigration Grant – There is an ILS grant that has been released for regional immigration centers. We already have a regional immigration center in Albany and he does not know if it is worth our time to apply. Albany to St. Lawrence County is our region and there are four other regions. He feels Albany will get the award on this grant. The committee did not express any interest in pursuing.
- Assistant Public Defender Position Opening/Backfill – Due to a resignation, he is requesting to backfill an Assistant Public Defender position. A former Assistant Public Defender has expressed interest in the position, Amanda Martin. He feels it is critical to the office to avoid any extended vacancies with all of the obligations in the office. A motion to forward backfill request, Assistant Public Defender position, to the Personnel Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.

- Request Permission to Provide Lunch for Inter Department Meeting – Requesting permission to provide lunch for an inter department meeting between the Public Defenders, Alternative Sentencing, Probation and District Attorney’s Offices. The Jail will cater the lunch and he has ILS training funding in his budget for this expense. The meeting is to improve relations between the offices as they all work on the new legislation. Scheduled for Thursday, February 13th at noon in the basement training room. No estimate of the cost but believes it to be nominal. A motion to approve lunch expense for inter department meeting on February 13th was moved by Mrs. Clary, seconded by Mr. Hogan and adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS:

EMS – Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator, distributed a handout on the EMS workforce shortage in New York State, a concern he has expressed many times to the committee, handout attached. This is a very serious matter. Only about one-third of EMS providers are volunteers and feels that is a very dangerous number. All eight squads in the County are operational and an upcoming training class is scheduled for February.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BILL A#09107 – Chairman Ward is requesting a resolution in support of Bill #A09107 sponsored by Assemblyman Stec that ensures privacy protections for all emergency personnel present at a crime scene including ambulance services or advanced life support first response services, certified first responders, firefighters, emergency medical technicians or advanced emergency medical technicians, who are employed by or enrolled members of any such service. This gives the same privacy protections to emergency personnel as police officers have regarding contact information. A motion authorizing a resolution in support of Bill #A09107 ensuring privacy protections for all emergency personnel present at a crime scene was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O’Brien and adopted.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Mr. Rozell, seconded by Mr. Hogan and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors

Risk Assessment

PERSON		
Name:	NYCID:	DIN:
SSN:	Race: Caucasian	Alternate ID:
Status: Open	Ethnicity:	True Name:
Date of Birth:	Agency: NYS Probation	
Gender: Male	Location: Washington ATI	

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION				
Case Identifier:	Scale Set: Full COMPAS Assessment v3	 Screener: Darfler, Ryan	Date of Screening: 5/1/2018	Screening Location: Washington ATI

SCREENING INFORMATION	
Marital Status:	Single
Custody Status:	ROR
Legal Status:	Pretrial
Probation Start Date:	

Overall Risk Potential

Risk	Score	Level
Violent Recidivism Risk	2	Low Risk
Recidivism	6	Med Risk
Failure to Appear	3	Low Risk

Criminogenic Need Scales

Category	Score	Level
Criminal Involvement		
Criminal Involvement	7	Medium
History of Non-Compliance	1	Low
History of Violence	1	Low
Attitudes		
Criminal Attitude	10	Highly Probable
Resentful/Mistrust	3	Unlikely
Responsivity Problems	3	Unlikely
Associates		
Few Pro-Social Peers	7	Probable
Criminal Associates/Peers	1	Unlikely
Personality		
Impulsivity	1	Unlikely

Anger	4	Unlikely							
Family									
Few Family Supports	1	Unlikely							
Family Criminality	10	Highly Probable							
Substance Abuse									
Substance Abuse	9	Highly Probable							
Social Engagement									
Life Goals/Idleness	5	Unlikely							
Financial Problems	9	Highly Probable							
Vocational/Educational Problems	9	Highly Probable							
Social Environment	1	Unlikely							
Social Isolation	10	Highly Probable							
Mental Health									
Depression	10	Highly Probable							

Risk Assessment

PERSON		
Name:	NYSID:	DIN:
SSN:	Race: Caucasian	Alternate ID:
Status: Open	Ethnicity:	True Name:
Date of Birth:	Agency: NYS Probation	
Gender: Male	Location: Washington ATI	

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION				
Case Identifier:	Scale Set: Full COMPAS Assessment v3	Screener: Darfler, Ryan	Date of Screening: 10/24/2018	Screening Location: Washington ATI

SCREENING INFORMATION	
Marital Status:	Single
Custody Status:	Pre-Trial Release
Legal Status:	Pretrial
Probation Start Date:	

Overall Risk Potential

Risk	Score	Level
Violent Recidivism Risk	1	Low Risk
Recidivism	5	Med Risk
Failure to Appear	2	Low Risk

Criminogenic Need Scales

Category	Item	Score	Level
Criminal Involvement	Criminal Involvement	7	Medium
	History of Non-Compliance	1	Low
	History of Violence	1	Low
Attitudes	Criminal Attitude	1	Unlikely
	Resentful/Mistrust	3	Unlikely
	Responsivity Problems	1	Unlikely
Associates	Few Pro-Social Peers	1	Unlikely
	Criminal Associates/Peers	1	Unlikely
Personality	Impulsivity	1	Unlikely

Anger	1	Unlikely																		
Family																				
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Social Isolation	1	Unlikely																		
Mental Health																				
Depression	9	Highly Probable																		



DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT

Washington County Annex 1 Office Building
415 Lower Main Street
Hudson Falls, New York 12839
Phone: (518) 746-2150 Fax: (518) 746-2175

AMENDMENT/RENEWAL OF APPLICATION FOR BUILDING PERMIT

OWNER:

MARK REKUCKI
5 LONGKILL ROAD

BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019-

NAME TO WHOM PERMIT WAS ISSUED:

MARK REKUCKI
5 LONGKILL ROAD

BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019-

Re: PERMIT NUMBER: B14-093-078

LOCATION: 17 Oakley Road

TAX MAP NUMBER: 73.17-1-30

TOWN/VILLAGE: Fort Ann Town

PERMIT EXPIRES/EXPIRED: 1/12/2016

December 23, 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our records indicate that the permit referenced above has expired or is about to expire.

Please call our office at (518) 746-2150 and dial "0" to speak with our departmental assistant within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter to discuss the status of the project and to determine the fee required to renew this permit. Failure to contact our office within thirty (30) days will result in the permit being cancelled. Please note that if a permit is cancelled before a Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance is issued, our office will not issue a Certificate for that permit in the future. Without a Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance, it is unlawful to use any building, system or other related items for which the permit was issued.

Thank you for your timeliness in contacting us.

Respectfully,

John Graham - Administrator
Washington County Code Enforcement
Direct: (518) 746-2579



DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT

Washington County Annex 1 Office Building
415 Lower Main Street
Hudson Falls, New York 12839
Phone: (518) 746-2150 Fax: (518) 746-2175

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF BUILDING PERMIT

OWNER:

MARK REKUCKI
5 LONGKILL ROAD

BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019-

NAME TO WHOM PERMIT WAS ISSUED:

MARK REKUCKI
5 LONGKILL ROAD

BALLSTON LAKE, NY 12019-

Re: PERMIT NUMBER: B14-093-078

LOCATION: 17 Oakley Road

TAX MAP NUMBER: 73.17-1-30

TOWN/VILLAGE: Fort Ann Town

PERMIT EXPIRES/EXPIRED: 1/12/2016

December 23, 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

A letter was mailed to the address above notifying you that the permit referenced above had expired or was about to expire. The letter stated that you were required to contact our office within thirty (30) days of the date of that letter or your permit would be cancelled.

Unfortunately, we did not receive any contact from you during that thirty (30) day period so this letter is being sent to notify you that the permit referenced above has been cancelled. As such, a Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance will not be issued for this permit in the future. Without a Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance, it is unlawful to use any building, system or other related items for which the permit was issued.

Respectfully,

John Graham - Administrator
Washington County Code Enforcement
Direct: (518) 746-2579

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT * COMMUNICATIONS * FIRE * EMS * HAZMAT

383 BROADWAY - BUILDING B, FORT EDWARD, NY 12828 • PHONE (518)747-7520 FAX (518)746-2157 TDD (518)746-2146 • WWW.WASHINGTONCOUNTYNY.GOV

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 28, 2020

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT UPDATES

We have broken down each of the active or recently closed Homeland Security grants, outlining the award amounts, grant funded items and performance periods (see page 2). We continue to maximize our available grant funds for as many projects and allowable initiatives, striving to limit the need for the use of our locally budgeted funds wherever possible. We are currently on schedule with all of our grants and wish to extend our continued appreciation to the County Administrator's office and the Treasurer's Office for all of their assistance and support they provide us with our grant programs.

FY19 EMPG - BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST

We are requesting the re-allocation of the following funding amounts for our existing EMPG grants from the 2019 budget to the 2020 budget to accommodate the annual migration of funding. We will work with the Treasurer's Office to have a Resolution Data Form submitted for the next Finance Committee meeting for the reallocation to be reflected as follows for 2020:

A.3640.2625.99 - \$ 20,584
A.3640.4625.01 - \$ 7,500

RADIO SYSTEM PROJECT (UPDATE)

The most recent phase of implementation of our initial simul-cast upgrade has been fine-tuned and is complete! We are working with our vendor to continue the upgrade project to include the remaining systems requiring migration and the additional resources planned for the future of the project.

CAD SYSTEM PROJECT (UPDATE)

The Cushing / Washington County systems project team last met on 01/14/2020, following an early morning scheduled reboot and system application update (coordinated). We are continuing to work with the vendor to complete the list of outstanding issues, which are discussed at each meeting. We continue to experience intermittent issues with a component of the system that the vendor is looking to migrate from a classic version to a web version (mobile piece) for the field units.

- Next Project Team Meeting: 02/04/2020 at 9:00 AM (scheduled reboot / application update for 5:00 AM)

PSAP TELEPHONY REPORTING SYSTEM CONTRACT (EXTENSION)

We are requesting approval to extend our PSAP Telephony Data Recording / Reporting system contract with our current system vendor (ECaTS) for 1 year, the current contract expired 12/31/2019. The extension will be in effect 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020 at a cost of \$4,965.60, funding is contained in our current 2020 budget.

COMMUNICATIONS MICROWAVE SYSTEM / NETWORK MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

We have completed our initial period of included maintenance on our communications microwave network. We obtained three quotes and are requesting approval to contract with the lowest quote to provide microwave network maintenance, service and support for 2 years at a cost of \$27,000 per year, which will be fully funded under our current SICG program.

PHOTOGRAMMETRY / MAPPING SYSTEM / APPLICATION

We have secured grant funding through our EMPG grant to fund our photogrammetry / mapping applications for aerial mapping and orthomosaic map stitching services. We are requesting to implement the applications best suited for the needs of Public Safety / Sheriff's Office at a cost of \$6,000.00 for the year - this will be revisited annually, depending on the availability of the grant funding. We are coordinating this project / purchase with both the County Administrator's office and Information Technology team.

We truly appreciate the continued and proven partnership and assistance of all of our elected officials, Communications Center personnel, field partners in Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Public Works, as well as our Municipal, County and State agency partners as we continue to navigate through any challenges we're faced with as a county and a team. Many thanks to all for their work on behalf of those we serve!

Respectfully Submitted,

Glen P. Gosnell
Director

Timothy R. Hardy
Deputy Director

Bruce K. Mason
EMS Coordinator

Glenn E. Bristol
Fire Coordinator



HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROJECT UPDATE

FY 18 PSAP (PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT) GRANT	
Award Amount	\$163,861
Performance Period	01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	PSAP Personnel Costs (reimbursement)
Status	Closed / Fully Reimbursed

FY 19 PSAP (PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT) GRANT	
Award Amount	\$149,071
Performance Period	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	PSAP Personnel Costs (reimbursement)
Status	In Progress

FY 17 SICG (STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT)	
Award Amount	\$837,216
Performance Period	01/01/2018 - 05/31/2020
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Public Safety Radio Communications Systems Upgrade Project
Status	In Progress

FY 18 SICG (STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT)	
Award Amount	\$771,550
Performance Period	01/01/2018 - 05/31/2020
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Public Safety Radio Communications Systems Upgrade Project (continued), PSAP / 911 Telephony System Upgrade
Status	In Progress

FY 19 SICG (STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT)	
Award Amount	\$729,068
Performance Period	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2021
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Public Safety Radio Communications Systems Upgrade Project (continued)
Status	Awaiting Final Contract from NYS

FY 18 EMPG (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT)	
Award Amount	\$28,476
Performance Period	10/01/2017 - 09/30/2019
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Weather Monitoring, Emergency Communications Equipment, Notifications
Status	Closed / Awaiting Final Reimbursement

FY 19 EMPG (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT)	
Award Amount	\$28,084
Performance Period	10/01/2018 - 09/30/2021
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Weather Monitoring, Emergency Communications Equipment, Notifications, Photogrammetry / Mapping Applications
Status	In Progress

FY 18 SHSP (HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM)	
Award Amount	\$58,983
Performance Period	09/01/2018 - 08/31/2021
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Training / Travel for county HazMat Team, Emergency Communications Equipment, Emergency Response / Planning
Status	In Progress

FY 19 SHSP (HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM)	
Award Amount	\$59,983
Performance Period	09/01/2019 - 08/31/2022
Approved / Budgeted Spending Plan	Training / Travel for county HazMat Team, Emergency Communications Equipment, Emergency Response Equipment (CBRNE, UTV), Planning, Weather Station (Colfax Mt), Personnel (Deputy Coordinator)
Status	Awaiting Final Contract from NYS

EMS WORKFORCE SHORTAGE IN NYS: WHERE ARE THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDERS?

Results of a survey of New York's
emergency medical service workforce
conducted by the New York State
Emergency Medical Services Council

December 2019



Emergency Medical
Services Council

WITH
SUPPORT
FROM



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Career and volunteer emergency medical service agencies in New York state are struggling to cope with a growing shortage of certified EMS responders. The number of certified EMS providers in New York has declined 9% in the last ten years, according to the New York State Department of Health Bureau of EMS.

This voluntary survey of New York state EMS agencies was designed to gather data on the shortage of certified EMS providers and gauge its impact on agencies' readiness to serve their communities.

A substantial number of EMS agencies report an impaired ability to respond to calls for assistance due to shortages of certified EMTs and paramedics. This is true for agencies that utilize volunteer responders and those that use paid responders. A majority of survey respondents had an unfavorable outlook on their agency's ability to recruit the workforce necessary to adequately serve their community in the future.

New Yorkers who need emergency medical assistance have always expected, and continue to expect, that EMS will arrive when needed, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. However, there are workforce shortage circumstances under which this expectation is at risk or not being met. New Yorkers are largely unaware of this struggle.

This survey was designed with the input of many members of the New York State Emergency Medical Services Council and compiled by SEMSCO Immediate Past Chair Steven Kroll, MHA, EMT, and New York State Medical Advisory Committee member Michael Dailey, MD.

About 900 New York EMS agencies responded to this survey during the summer of 2018. This represents a response rate of approximately 50% of New York's EMS agencies.

Data collection was conducted in collaboration with New York's 18 Regional EMS Councils. Special thanks to the Healthcare Association of New York State for helping produce this report.

INSIDE THIS REPORT:

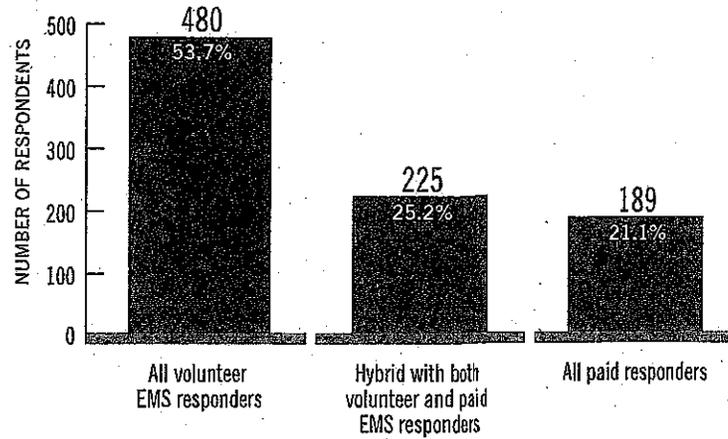
Background	1
Key responses	2
Survey responses by agency type	3
Salary data	8

REASONS FOR THE EMS WORKFORCE SHORTAGE INCLUDE:

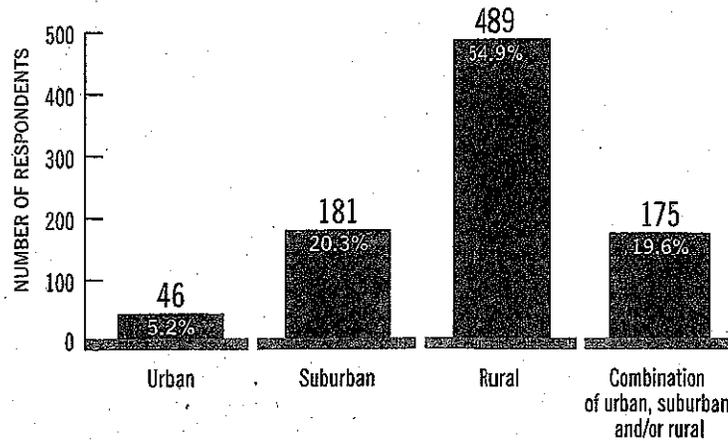
- a decline in the number of new volunteers to replace long-time volunteers aging into retirement;
- low wages for career EMTs and paramedics, despite the tremendous responsibilities that come with the job;
- a very limited capacity to raise wages, due to the declining financial health and negative fiscal outlook facing most ambulance services; and
- a need for more EMS responders to meet increasing demands for ambulance service due to aging communities, drug and alcohol abuse, behavioral health challenges and chronic care needs.

BACKGROUND — WHO RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY

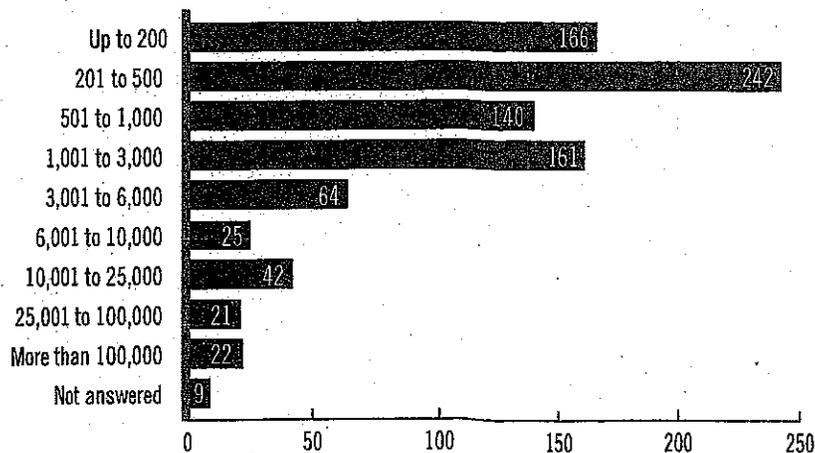
Respondents
by agency
staffing type



Respondents
by community
type



Responses
by yearly
call volume



KEY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE RESPONSES

52% of agencies utilizing volunteer responders reported their ability for timely EMS responses in their community was moderately or severely impaired by certified volunteer staff shortages; 29% of agencies reported frequent delayed responses or missing calls due to the shortage.

40% of agencies using volunteers reported their number of certified volunteers decreased by 11% or more over the last three years; 16% saw a decrease of more than 25%.

62% of agencies utilizing only paid responders reported that the shortage in the number of qualified paramedics diminished their ability to cover their calls or scheduled shifts. Similarly, 38% reported that the shortage of qualified EMTs diminished their ability to cover their calls or scheduled shifts.

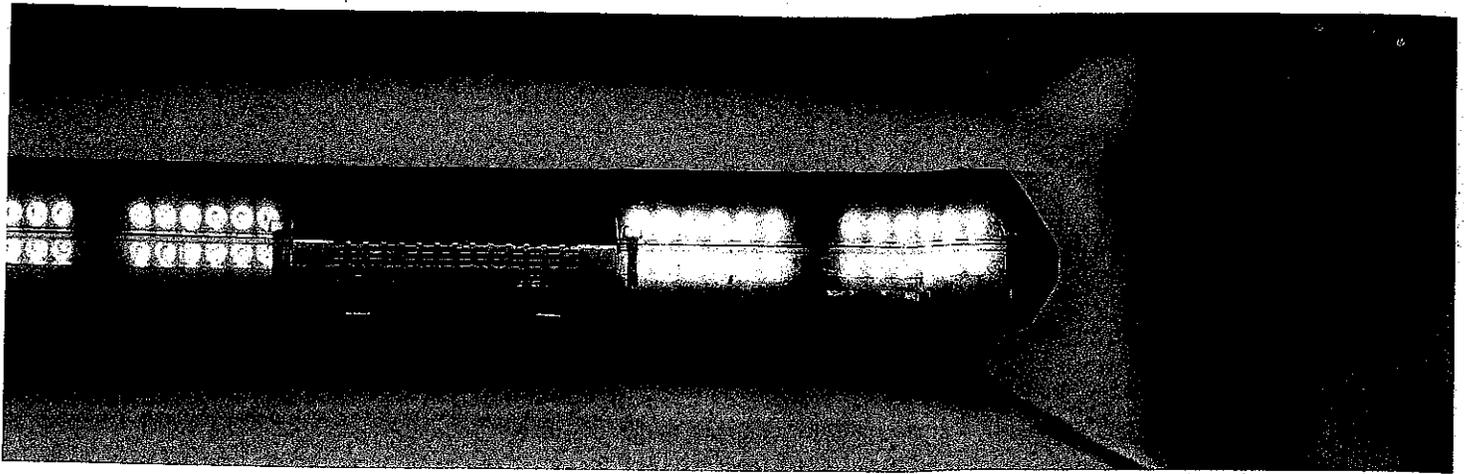
49% of agencies using only paid responders reported an increase of 11% or more in the number of paid overtime hours in the last two years to compensate for responder shortages.

40% of respondents consider their EMS responder workforce to be "distressed."

62% of respondents had an unfavorable outlook on their agency's ability to recruit enough certified EMS responders to adequately serve their community in the future.

WORKFORCE SHORTAGE MORE SEVERE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

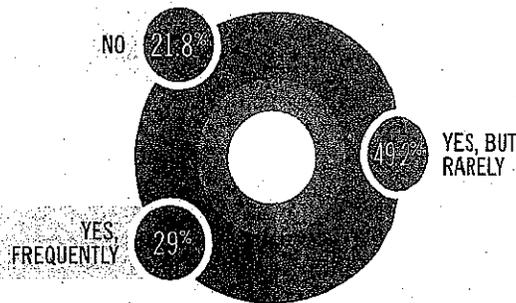
- Fifty-nine percent of rural volunteer responders reported their ability for timely EMS responses in their community was moderately or severely impaired by certified volunteer staff shortages.
- Sixty-eight percent of rural agencies using only paid responders reported that the shortage in the number of qualified paramedics diminished their ability to cover their calls or scheduled shifts. Similarly, 46% reported that the shortage of qualified EMTs diminished their ability to cover their calls or scheduled shifts.
- Fifty-nine percent of agencies utilizing only paid responders reported an increase of 11% or more in the number of paid overtime hours in the last two years to compensate for responder shortages.
- Sixty-eight percent of rural respondents had an unfavorable outlook on the future of responder recruitment.



SURVEY RESPONSES BY VOLUNTEER/HYBRID AGENCIES

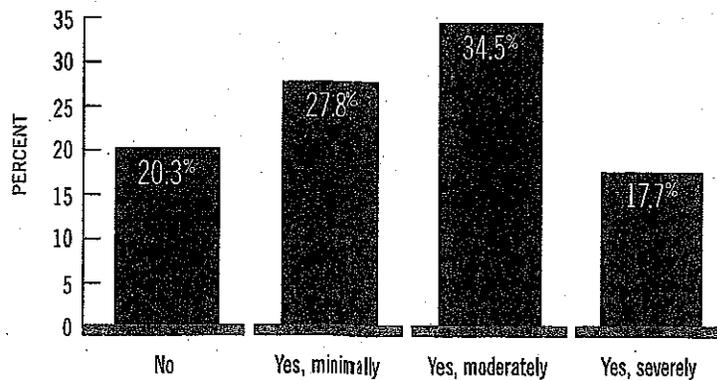
(Hybrid agencies are those that have both volunteer and paid responders.)

Is your agency delaying responses or missing calls due to the shortage of certified volunteer responders?

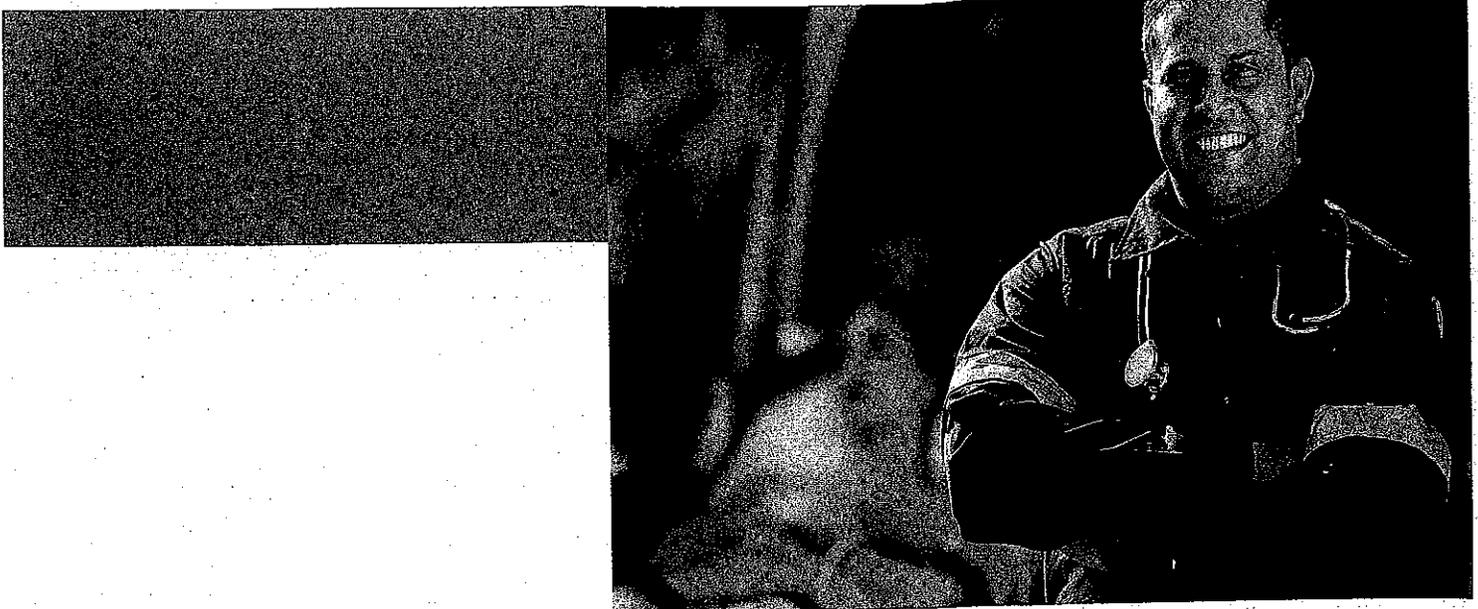


29% of agencies reported frequent delayed responses or missing calls due to the shortage; only 22% of agencies were not delaying responses or missing calls due to the shortage.

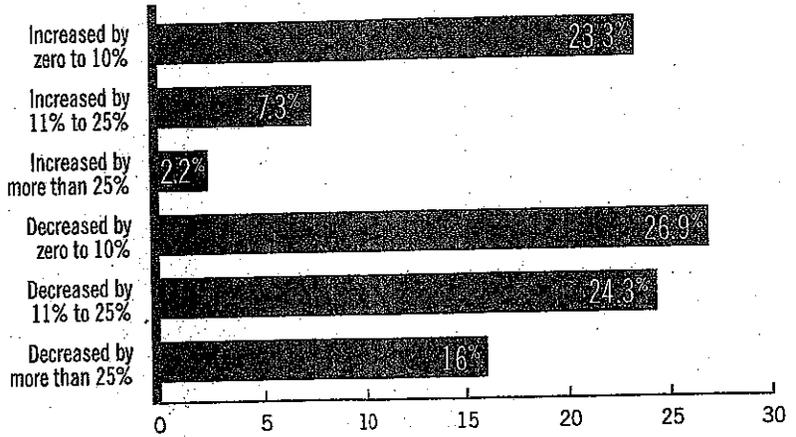
Do you believe the ability for timely EMS responses in your community is currently impaired by certified volunteer staff shortages?



52% reported their capacity for timely EMS responses in their community was moderately or severely impaired by certified volunteer staff shortages.

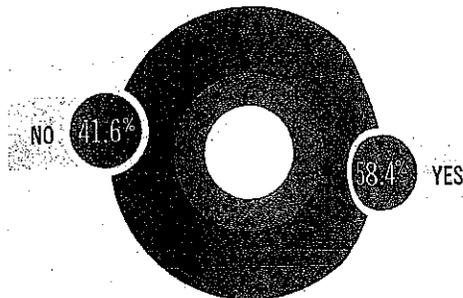


Has your number of certified volunteer responders increased or decreased in the last three years?



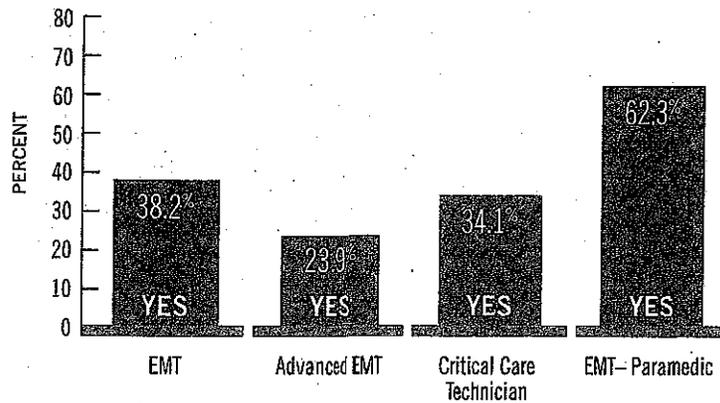
Two-thirds of agencies reported their number of certified volunteers decreased over the last three years; 16% saw a drop of more than 25%.

Has a decline in the number of certified responders diminished your ability to cover your calls or cover scheduled shifts?

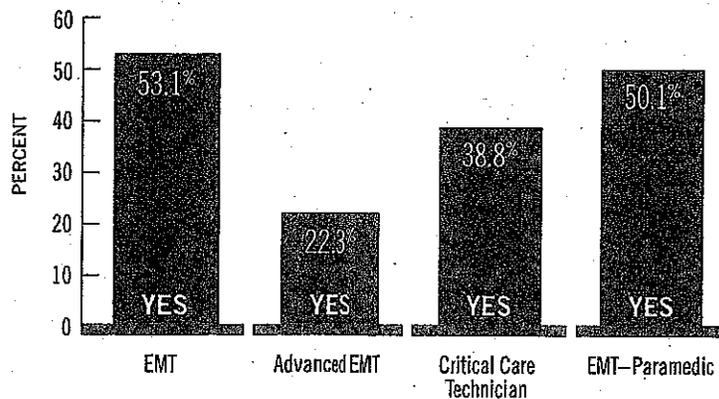


SURVEY RESPONSES BY AGENCIES WITH PAID RESPONDERS

Fully Paid Agency –
Has a shortage in the number of qualified paid EMS providers diminished your ability to cover your calls or cover scheduled shifts?

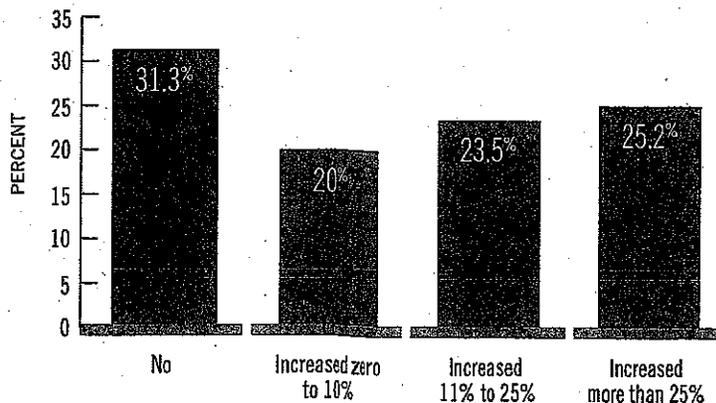


Hybrid Agencies (Volunteer agency with some paid personnel) –
Has a shortage in the number of qualified paid EMS providers diminished your ability to cover your calls or cover scheduled shifts?



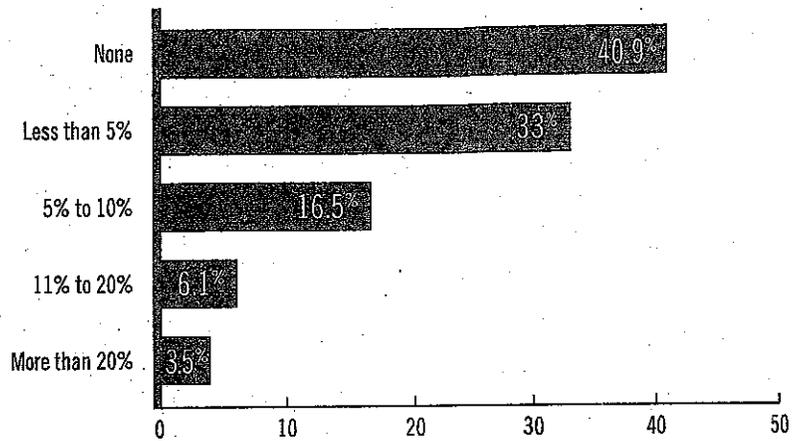
Paid and hybrid agencies reported significant shortages of personnel at all certification levels, diminishing their ability to cover their calls or scheduled shifts.

Have you had to increase the number of paid overtime hours in the last two years to compensate for EMS responder shortages?



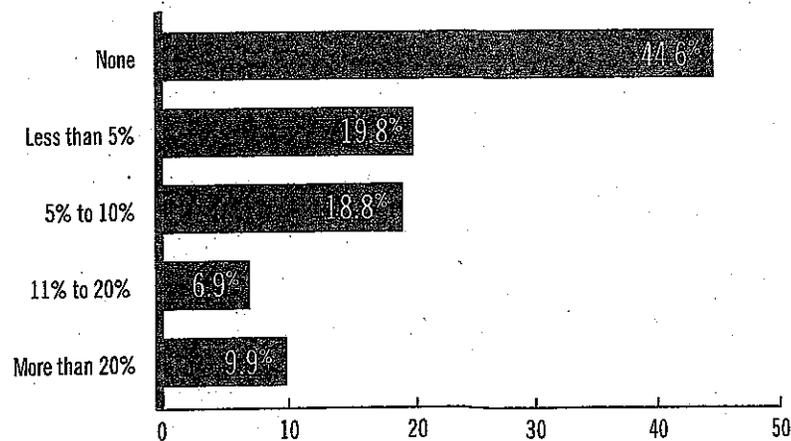
Nearly three-quarters of agencies reported an increase in the number of paid overtime hours in the last two years to compensate for responder shortages.

What percentage of emergency responses in your community are delayed by paid responder shortages?



More than half of agencies had emergency responses delayed by responder shortages.

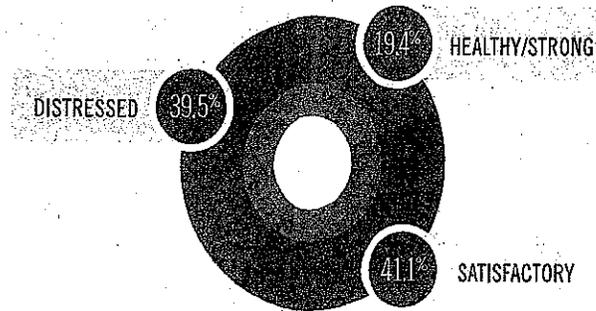
What percentage of inter-facility transports are delayed by paid responder shortages?



More than half of agencies had inter-facility transports delayed by responder shortages, potentially disrupting patient navigation of hospitals and continuing care providers.

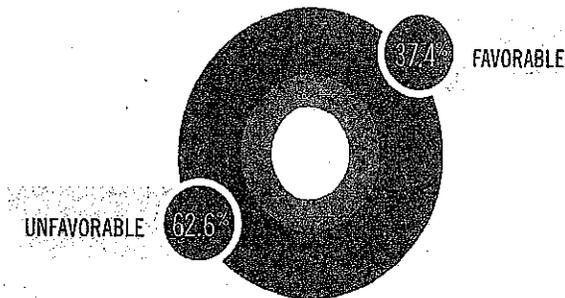
SURVEY RESPONSES FOR ALL AGENCIES

Do you consider your EMS agencies responder workforce to be healthy/strong, satisfactory or distressed?



40% of respondents consider their EMS responder workforce to be “distressed.”

Given current workforce circumstances and trends, do you have a favorable or unfavorable outlook on your agency's ability to recruit enough certified EMS responders to adequately serve your community in the future?



Nearly two-thirds of respondents had an unfavorable workforce outlook.

Why can't EMS providers raise wages?

There are a number of factors behind the fiscal instability that prevents EMS providers from increasing wages:

- The rates paid to ambulance services by all payers are under the same compression as payments to hospitals, physicians and other healthcare providers. Neither government payers nor private insurers are willing to raise ambulance payments to increase wages. Direct government EMS subsidies are difficult to obtain from localities managing multiple priorities and living under a tax cap.
- Many insurers – including Medicare and Medicaid – pay EMS agencies less than their actual cost of transporting a patient. Since the ability to cost-shift to other payers is long gone, government payment shortfalls are a significant impediment to ambulance services giving wage increases. According to the NYSDOH 2017 Medicaid Ambulance Rate Adequacy Review, ambulance agencies – volunteer and paid – are paid much less than it costs to transport a Medicaid patient. The report recommended that Medicaid rates be increased over time to be more closely reflective of costs.

SALARY INEQUITY UNDERMINES EMS AS A CAREER CHOICE

EMTs and paramedics receive extensive training, work in high-risk and high-stress situations and have great responsibility for the well-being of the people they serve. Yet, they are paid far less than other public safety and healthcare professionals. EMTs and paramedics often leave their jobs to become firefighters, police officers or registered nurses. EMS salaries must increase to provide parity and support EMS as a career choice.

SALARY COMPARISON DATA — EMS/FIRE/POLICE/NURSING

2017 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Data

[www.bls.gov/oes/current/oesrcma.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm)

	EMT/EMT-P	Firefighter	FF % Higher	PD Patrol Officer	PD % Higher	Registered Nurse	RN % Higher
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	\$40,310	\$56,720	141%	\$68,110	169%	\$66,980	166%
Binghamton	\$35,230	\$65,970	187%	\$65,130	185%	\$62,320	176%
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	\$33,040	\$67,090	203%	\$66,280	201%	\$73,250	222%
Syracuse	\$34,760	\$48,860	141%	\$63,260	182%	\$64,750	186%
Rochester	\$35,180	\$68,360	194%	\$67,960	193%	\$64,280	183%
Utica-Rome	\$31,430	\$56,570	180%	\$57,580	183%	\$65,080	207%

NYC CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES (5 YEARS EXPERIENCE)

FDNY EMT	FDNY	FF % Higher	NYPD	PD % Higher	RN (average 2017 salary - BLS)	RN % Higher
\$47,685	\$85,292	179%	\$85,292	179%	\$89,400	187%
FDNY EMT-P	FDNY	FF % Higher	NYPD	PD % Higher	RN (average 2017 salary - BLS)	RN % Higher
\$61,464	\$85,292	139%	\$85,292	139%	\$89,400	145%

Providers need to work more than one job to make ends meet

Given the salary inequity, it is no surprise that many certified EMS responders must work more than one job to make ends meet.

- Thirty-four percent of survey respondents indicated that “nearly all” of their paid EMTs work more than one job in EMS. Another 11% indicate more than half of their paid EMTs work more than one job.
- Forty-two percent of survey respondents indicated that “nearly all” of their paid paramedics work more than one job in EMS. Another 9% indicate more than half of their paid paramedics work more than one job.



Emergency Medical Services Council

New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems
875 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/

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Amd §§245.20 & 245.70, CP L

Ensures privacy protections for all emergency personnel present at a crime scene including ambulance services or advanced life support first response services, certified first responders, firefighters, emergency medical technicians or advanced emergency medical technicians, who are employed by or enrolled members of any such service.

STATE OF NEW YORK

9107

IN ASSEMBLY

January 21, 2020

Introduced by M. of A. STEC, WALSH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the criminal procedure law, in relation to ensuring privacy protections for all emergency personnel present at a crime scene

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 1 of section 245.20 of the
2 criminal procedure law, as added by section 2 of part LLL of chapter 59
3 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

4 (c) The names and adequate contact information for all persons other
5 than law enforcement personnel, ambulance services or advanced life
6 support first response services, certified first responders, firefight-
7 ers, emergency medical technicians or advanced emergency medical techni-
8 cians, who are employed by or enrolled members of any such service, whom
9 the prosecutor knows to have evidence or information relevant to any
10 offense charged or to any potential defense thereto, including a desig-
11 nation by the prosecutor as to which of those persons may be called as
12 witnesses. Nothing in this paragraph shall require the disclosure of
13 physical addresses; provided, however, upon a motion and good cause
14 shown the court may direct the disclosure of a physical address. Infor-
15 mation under this subdivision relating to a confidential informant may
16 be withheld, and redacted from discovery materials, without need for a
17 motion pursuant to section 245.70 of this article; but the prosecution
18 shall notify the defendant in writing that such information has not been
19 disclosed, unless the court rules otherwise for good cause shown.

20 § 2. Subdivision 4 of section 245.70 of the criminal procedure law, as
21 added by section 2 of part LLL of chapter 59 of the laws of 2019, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 4. Showing of good cause. In determining good cause under this section
24 the court may consider: constitutional rights or limitations; danger to
25 the integrity of physical evidence or the safety of a witness; risk of
26 intimidation, economic reprisal, bribery, harassment or unjustified
27 annoyance or embarrassment to any person, and the nature, severity and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets

1 likelihood of that risk; a risk of an adverse effect upon the legitimate
2 needs of law enforcement, ambulance services or advanced life support
3 first response services, certified first responders, firefighters, emer-
4 gency medical technicians or advanced emergency medical technicians, who
5 are employed by or enrolled members of any such service, including the
6 protection of the confidentiality of informants, and the nature, severi-
7 ty and likelihood of that risk; the nature and circumstances of the
8 factual allegations in the case; whether the defendant has a history of
9 witness intimidation or tampering and the nature of that history; the
10 nature of the stated reasons in support of a protective order; the
11 nature of the witness identifying information that is sought to be
12 addressed by a protective order, including the option of employing
13 adequate alternative contact information; danger to any person stemming
14 from factors such as a defendant's substantiated affiliation with a
15 criminal enterprise as defined in subdivision three of section 460.10 of
16 the penal law; and other similar factors found to outweigh the useful-
17 ness of the discovery.

18 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
19 have become a law.