



**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICE
INSTITUTE**

2917.

Serving the Southwestern Pennsylvania counties of:

Allegheny • Armstrong • Beaver • Butler • Fayette
Greene • Indiana • Lawrence • Washington • Westmoreland

Southwest Pennsylvania's Regional EMS Council

August 8, 2013

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

2013 AUG 13 AM 10:32

RECEIVED
IRRC

RE: Department of Health – Emergency Medical Services System
Regulation Number: #10-190 (IRRC #2917)
Date of Hearing: Thursday, August 22, 2013

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Emergency Medical Service Institute, I encourage the favorable consideration of Regulation #10 – 190: Emergency Medical Services System which implements the Emergency Medical Services System Act.

While this organization serves as the Regional EMS Council for southwestern Pennsylvania, its Board of Directors is comprised of individual EMS providers, EMS agency chiefs, hospital representatives, Emergency Management officials and county government appointees, all of whom have a significant interest in the EMS system in Pennsylvania. It is the unanimous agreement of these regional representatives and EMS stakeholders that this long-awaited Regulation is essential to the improvement and further development of the EMS system.

When considering the history of public safety in Pennsylvania, Emergency Medical Services is relatively young, having only been recognized as a profession for the past 30 years. During that time, medical technology, education, training and operational expertise has evolved exponentially, while the law remained virtually unchanged until the new EMS Act was enacted in 2009. Since that time, the EMS community has looked forward to the adoption of this Regulation to fully implement the Act and to allow the EMS system to further evolve.

We sincerely believe that this Regulation, and the EMS Act as a whole, provides a framework which will allow better patient care, more efficient system administration, and better coordination of limited resources and personnel. We believe that this Regulation is in the best interest of the EMS system which helps to protect all the citizens who live in, or travel through, Pennsylvania.

Cordially,

Robert McCaughan
Vice President / Acting President