



Fraternal Association of Professional Paramedics

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Joseph W. Schmider
Director, Bureau of EMS
Department of Health

The Fraternal Association of Professional Paramedics has some serious concerns involving the use of different apparatuses responding to medical calls and the regulations of such apparatuses. Currently, when a PA state certified Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic has an issue with a moving violation, reckless driving or use of drugs/alcohol there are penalties which prevent them from driving an ambulance (state ems informational bulletin #61). This is an indisputably valuable standard, and sets a high quality of behavior for health care professionals to follow. We question why this provision is limited to the operation of ambulances only, and therefore applies to Paramedics/ EMTs only.

Under the EMS act, the state (section 1023.21) has rules and regulation that deal with EMSVO. If an organization has a PA state certified QRS, rescue squad, fire truck, motorcycle or police vehicle that responds to medical emergencies, why are the operator of these vehicles not included in the provision?

The Executive Board of FAPP, on behalf of our members, are asking that the provision site that all the drivers of rescue vehicles responding to medical calls be held to this standard. Moving forward, to provide the best possible care and ensure the safety of our patients, FAPP feels ardent that all providers on medical emergency scenes must be held to the same standard.

Sincerely,

Anthony Weinmann RN, EMT-P
President FAPP, Local 1