Attached is a PDF version of an e-mail I received from District 1. I would like to have this put up on the NYSVARA website and Jim if you could send this out as an e-mail blast I would appreciate it.

A LESSON LEARNED AND MANY LIVES SAVED

I received an E-mail written by Lt. Donnie Fedorowski, Rockland Paramedic Services in Rockland County. RPS Medic 25 is a double medic unit stationed in the Spring Hill Community Ambulance Corps. building in Spring Valley, NY in Rockland County. The Call described could have been in ANY village, town or county in The State of New York.

I ask EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU to read the e-mail and take from it the following:
1) The Paramedics and the EMT's are safe and uninjured
2) The Police officer on scene is safe and uninjured
3) The Patient and his family is safe and uninjured
4) THIS ENDING MIGHT HAVE BEEN VERY DIFFERENT!!!

SCENE SAFETY is not just when you first walk into a scene, it continues until you sign back in service!!

BE SAFE!!
Michael J. Mastrianni, Jr.
President

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I just want to share an incident that shows how important it is to remain vigilant, alert and careful wherever, whenever one is on a job or even simply out in public:

Mid-morning on Tuesday June 7, 2011 Medic 25 and Spring Hill are dispatched to a "Male having a heart attack" in a residential neighborhood. Upon arrival to a unassuming house, the crew is lead upstairs by a young woman in her mid 20's. The home appears simple and clean, the residents are friendly and no threat is even thought of.

Upon walking into an air conditioned bedroom, a male in his 30's is lying supine on the bed with his right hand behind his head on the pillow. The evaluation begins and it is evident that the man is suffering from a CVA. The patient is conscious, alert and talking. Blood pressures are taken, meds are copied, history obtained and equipment is brought in to facilitate movement of the patient to the bus. About 8 to 10 minutes is spent inside the residence in an unpretentious atmosphere. All this time there is a police officer in the room as well as the girlfriend. Everything that is going on is being explained to the patient and he is aware of the situation.

The time came to move the patient onto the reeves stretcher. As the crew, with the help of the police officer approach with the reeves and even have hands on the patient, ready to move him; The patient lets slip that he has a loaded pistol under his pillow.

For a second, time stood still. Some people froze, some took a step back... then froze, others noted the door, the window or is it easier to flip the table... Is there going to be a bang? The officer's hand went for his own weapon. All this, in a split second and eyes widen as there is a realization that the gun is now in the patients hand. As fast as it began, the 38 caliber semi automatic colt pistol was in the police officers hand being unloaded and the clock began ticking again.

Everyone was stunned for a moment. Really?! But there it was. As it turned out, papers were produced with permits, but the weapon was confiscated by the police for safekeeping since it could not be secured in the residence.

Lesson learned. We hear of tragedies all around us. This was not anything close to that, but it is a reminder that it can happen, even here in Rockland County. Be careful out there.

D.

Please feel free pass the info along

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