February 23, 2012

EMS Providers,

Many of you have heard about the proposed changes to Article 30 of New York State Public Health Law (NYS PBL), submitted in the Governors Executive Budget. Included in these changes are many modifications to the current EMS system we operate under. There has been much speculation and suggestions for modification to the submitted proposal, however, all indications are that major modifications to our system will occur and that the budget will move forward as planned. Listed below are links to several important documents that you can review.

- NYS Article 30 changes – http://db.tt/4qrD97k0
- Summary of Article 30 changes – http://db.tt/hhgondDy
- EMS Coalition Letter – http://db.tt/tlAZScN

I want to assure you that the current Monroe-Livingston EMS Council, REMAC, and Program Agency are continuing to perform all essential duties until such time, that we are sure of the new plan and transition process. Updated protocols are being introduced and all current requirements for data submission, Quality Assurance, and system participation requirements remain in place. All of the members of these groups are dedicated to providing a smooth transition when that time comes. I do not feel that it is fair at this time to speculate on what the “new” will be until we get further information, however, I will do my best, along with my colleagues, to communicate information as it becomes available.

While we are continuing to work on essential programs, the MLREMS Council, REMAC, and Program Agency are suspending some activities that extend beyond the time of the expected changes. This includes certain Technical Advisory Groups and long-term projects. As I mentioned before, these tasks do not pertain to the current operations in our region including practice, CME, and Quality Assurance.
We will continue to pro-actively work with the appropriate agencies to implement forthcoming changes to ensure that you, the providers, and more importantly, our communities and patients continue to receive the best possible support and care. We will be holding our regularly scheduled meetings and I encourage you to attend for further involvement and information.

Sincerely,

Mark Tornstrom
Chair Monroe Livingston Regional EMS Council