A Message from Chairman Jay Gardiner, Suffolk REMSCO

TO ALL EMS PROVIDERS IN SUFFOLK COUNTY:

The past week has seen our County face a disaster that is unparalleled in our lifetime. The loss of life, devastation of property, and resultant economic hardship seems to be surreal, and many of ourselves, our friends, families, and neighbors will need significant time and help to get back to a normal life.

There are many stories of heroism and dedication to helping others that are arising from this tragedy. The members of the EMS community in Suffolk County, along with our brothers and sisters in the Fire Service, Police, and other Emergency Services have, as always, been some of the shining stars. The selfless dedication to helping those less fortunate, regardless of individual predicament, has been seen in the countless hours and unwavering commitment to ensuring the preservation of life and property.

Whether volunteer or paid, the ability of our agencies to muster significant response and dedicated crews played a major role in limiting the potential for additional death and injury during and after the storm.

Our Division of EMS Staff, led by Bob Delagi, our Chief of Pre-hospital Medical Operations, has been working tirelessly since the week preceding the storm to coordinate agency response, and deal with the evacuation of patient populations from designated flood areas.

There is much more work to be done, but at this point we need to also recognize that we make a difference, and use that positive feeling to continue to carry out our mission.

On behalf of Suffolk REMSCO, I would like to say “thanks for all that you do” to all the members of EMS, Fire, Police, and other Emergency Services, as well as to their families.

Stay safe, and we hope and pray for better days to come.

Jay Gardiner
Chair
Suffolk Regional Emergency Medical Services Council