

Date: December 7, 2023 **System Memo: # 427**
To: All System members and NCH EMS students
From: Matthew T. Jordan, MD, FACEP
EMS System MD
Connie J. Mattera, MS, RN, PM
EMS Admin Director | PM Program Director
RE: Memorial salutes to Tony Cellitti & Gregg Wikierak
Updated Safe Ambulance Operation / Lights & Sirens Policy
Open positions on System EMS Advisory Board | Admissions requirements F24 PM class

Anthony Cellitti

The NWC EMSS extends a farewell tribute to Anthony Cellitti, paramedic and EMS Educator who died suddenly last weekend. He was most recently the Lead Instructor for the Sherman Hospital Paramedic Program, faculty for ITLS, mentor to many, and an active member of the State of Illinois EMS Recruitment and Retention Committee. We honor him for his extensive service as an educator and clinician. He was passionate about excellent patient care and finding creative answers to the challenges facing EMS. He was a force for good and we will miss him.

Gregg Wikierak

The System is also sad to say good bye to one of our own. Gregg was a retired member of the Arlington Heights FD and we send our condolences to his family, his Fire Department brothers and sisters, and others who loved him. We are grateful for his expansive dedication to duty. His extraordinary outreach to so many is a testament to a life well-lived as he built a living legacy that will ripple through generations to come.

Tribute from his former partner Chris Dunn: Gregg was a mentor, a friend, and a guy who taught me the finer points of being a caring and compassionate paramedic. He embodied the characteristics of a guy's guy as well as the loving kindness of a father and caring EMS provider. His love of fellow human beings and sharp humor will always remain in my mind and heart. He was, and will always be, a hero to me and every life he touched.

Policy L2 Safe Ambulance Operation | Use of Lights and Sirens updated

The System Advisory Board and the Chiefs/Administrators have approved and endorsed the attached update. New language provides clear direction on what is authorized when responding to a scene and during transport including the need for OLMC authorization in some instances. It incorporates best practices from multiple position papers and includes relevant clauses from Illinois law.

Please distribute to all FD officers; EMS clinicians, ECRNs, & ED physicians

The policy is posted to the System website (www.nwcemss.org) as a breaking news story and under the Standards of Practice tab/ Policy Manual. Contact us if you have any questions. **Effective immediately.**

System EMS Advisory Board – Open positions in 2024

Several Board positions will open in January 2024. We are seeking interested candidates to represent the following constituencies:

- Officer Paramedic member
- Paramedic non-officer member
- Paramedic non-officer alternate
- Public citizens (1 member and 1 alternate)
- Associate Hospital Administrator alternate
- Associate Hospital EMS Physician alternate
- Law enforcement alternate
- Emergency Medical Dispatcher member

All standing System Committees are also asked to update their member and alternate positions. Please see the **Board Member Fact Sheet** and **2024 Application** attached. Current Board alternates may apply for one of the open member positions if they meet the criteria. In that case, an alternate position would open instead.

Application due date: January 9, 2024

Pre-entrance information for Fall 2024 Paramedic Class

Attached is information regarding course dates, prerequisites, pretesting, application submission/file completion, and class selection criteria for the fall 2024 NCH Paramedic class affiliated with Harper College. Please distribute to the appropriate persons if members of your organization are slated to attend the class.