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To: All Emergency Medical Dispatchers, Emergency Medical Responders,

EMT-Basics, EMT-Intermediates, Advanced EMTs, Paramedics, Executives,

Chiefs, Directors, Supervisors, and Administrators

cc: Medical Control Board Physicians & Office of the Medical Director Staff

Re: National EMS Week, May 21-27, 2017



Congratulations to each emergency medical service professional in our EMS system on the occasion of this year's National EMS Week, a time to recognize the incredibly important and heroic work you perform each and every day!

On behalf of the entire Medical Control Board and the Office of the Medical Director, we are privileged to recognize you and thank you for your inspiring commitments in serving the citizens and visitors within our EMS system. The national theme of 2017's EMS Week is EMS Strong: Always in Service. The significance of this theme highlights that you and your colleagues, comprising an EMS system 4300 strong, answer and stabilize emergency medical incidents 24/7/365. Whenever unanticipated medical emergencies strike, citizens and visitors in Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa can rely on this: skilled, talented, and dedicated medical professionals are on the way to make a significant difference. In fact, we collectively make a positive difference for tens of thousands of patients (over 170,000 last year) throughout the year.

Last year, our EMS system responded to over 210,000 calls, again making it one of the busiest in the United States and beyond. Your commitment to excellence in prehospital medicine, joined with like commitment from each of your team partners in our EMS system, made answering these calls one of the most noble and caring endeavors to be found.

The Office of the Medical Director staff and we hope to see as many of you as possible this week. Please accept this communication as the following: 1) a personal thank you for your fine work, and 2) an invitation to directly hear from you what we can do even better to serve our patients and to serve you.

Keep up your enthusiasm, your energy, your pride, your strength, and your caring!

With respect & sincere appreciation for difficult, meaningful work done extremely well,

Jeffrey M. Goodloe, MD, NRP, FACEP, FAEMS Medical Director Curtis Knoles, MD, FAAP Assistant Medical Director