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April 11-17, 2021

To: All Emergency Medical Dispatchers

Cc: Medical Control Board Physicians & Office of the Medical Director Personnel

Re: National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, April 11-17, 2021

Though an annual message from us, it remains a vitally important message in sharing our sincere appreciation and respect for the dedication by every emergency medical dispatch professional in the EMS System for Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa on the occasion of 2021's National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week. This week is declared by the United States Congress to recognize the vital and life-saving work performed by emergency medical dispatchers each and every day of each and every week!

On behalf of the entire Medical Control Board and the Office of the Medical Director, we are privileged to join in recognizing the truly lifesaving role that emergency medical dispatchers fulfill in our EMS system. This past 12 months has brought an unprecedented (and ongoing) pandemic. A significant part of keeping EMTs and Paramedics within our EMS system healthy is the potential pandemic call nature that is identified prior to scene arrival, allowing your field colleagues the alerting information needed to don additional PPE. Additionally, as we recently communicated in celebrating Calendar Year 2019 cardiac arrest survival statistics, the role of emergency medical dispatchers is directly linked with timely bystander CPR and on-scene EMS resuscitative care. And that just two examples of many amazing things you do!

There is no question you really do perform heroic actions.

Keep up the fine work, enthusiasm, and all that you do to keep patients and your field colleagues safe. Always remember you make a real impact for patients and those that love them.

It's an honor to serve as your Medical Officers.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey M. Goodloe, MD, NRP, FACEP, FAEMS
Chief Medical Officer

Curtis Knoles, MD, FAAP
Associate Chief Medical Officer