



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Joe Manchin III
Governor

BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
Commissioner's Office
350 Capitol Street, Room 702
Charleston, West Virginia 25301-3712
Telephone: (304) 558-2971 Fax: (304) 558-1035

Patsy A. Hardy, FACHE, MSN, MBA
Cabinet Secretary

November 2, 2009

West Virginia EMS Agencies and Personnel:

As most of you know, Dr. Bill Ramsey resigned his position as the West Virginia EMS Medical Director and State Trauma and Emergency Care System (STECS) Director. While we regret his parting, we wish him well in his future endeavors.

In order to maintain continuity of operations, we have taken the following steps:

- William Rose, M.D., FACEP, of Morgantown has accepted the position of Interim EMS Medical Director. Dr. Rose brings a wealth of EMS medical experience to the position that will serve the State well and his previous involvement with STECS positions him ideally to assume these responsibilities.
- Ron Forren, recently retired Bureau for Public Health Deputy Commissioner, has agreed to serve temporarily as the STECS Administrative Director as we transition to new leadership. Mr. Forren's past work with the Bureau was exemplary and we look forward to his involvement with this effort.

These measures will allow the divisions within STECS: EMS, Trauma and Communications, to function unimpeded. Current division Directors Penny Byrnside, Joe Gonzalez and Jerry Kyle will remain responsible for their respective areas and report to Mr. Forren.

The search for a permanent EMS Medical Director will begin immediately. We are currently examining the STECS organizational concept to determine the most effective way to administer the services of this essential component of the healthcare system in the future.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff and supporting our existing staff. I know you will give them the appropriate cooperation and respect, and we look forward to working with you as we transition to new leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Curtis".

Chris Curtis, M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

cc: Patsy Hardy
William Rose, M.D., FACEP
Ron Forren