



IAEMSC

International Association of Emergency Medical Services Chiefs

For Immediate Release

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Baltimore, MD – The International Association of Emergency Medical Service Chiefs (IAEMSC) and the Emergency Medical Services Labor Alliance (EMSLA) today announced their opposition to the consolidation of Emergency Medical Service (EMS), Law Enforcement and Fire Service functions. Both the IAEMSC and EMSLA believe that each of these functions play a critically important role in protecting the community and should not be diminished or devalued.

The IAEMSC and EMSLA are sensitive to the fiscal woes and constraints most communities in the United States are presently facing, but after a careful analysis of this strategy we believe this is an ill conceived “quick fix” that achieves marginal fiscal efficiency at best and concurrently creates a significant reduction in service and service capacity to a community.

Sustaining “life saving” services / capacities is an important responsibility for all members in a community, including the elected officials. Choosing to pursue a strategy of consolidating Emergency Medical Service (EMS), Law Enforcement and Fire Service functions into a single public safety agency construct marginalizes the core missions of each of these vital functions and places citizens and responders in danger by reducing staffing and diluting the pool of highly trained specialists in each functional area.

The International Association of Emergency Medical Service Chiefs (IAEMSC) and the Emergency Medical Services Labor Alliance (EMSLA) strongly encourage citizens, public administrators and elected officials to carefully consider the implications and the extent that this degradation of service capacity will place their respective communities at increased risk for loss of life and property.

Both organizations have committed to aggressively monitor this evolving situation.

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