



AGENDA
Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)
Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee Meeting
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Wednesday, March 5, 2025
9:00 AM- 10:30 AM
DoubleTree by Hilton Austin, Phoenix South Ballroom
6505 N Interstate 35
Austin, TX 78752

This meeting will be conducted live and virtually through Zoom. Virtual meeting links are posted to the GETAC webpage at www.dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems/governors-ems-trauma-advisory-council.

Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee Chair: Eric Epley, CEM, NREMT-P
Council Liaisons: Mike Clements, EMT-P; Brian Eastridge, MD; Sharon Malone, MD
DSHS: Jorie Klein, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joseph Schmider, State EMS Director

1. Call to order – Eric Epley, CEM, NREMT-P, Chair
2. Roll call – DSHS Staff
3. Reading of the GETAC vision and mission statements – Eric Epley, Chair

GETAC Vision: A unified, comprehensive, and effective Emergency Healthcare System.

GETAC Mission: To promote, develop, and advance an accountable, patient-centered Trauma and Emergency Healthcare System.

4. Reading of the GETAC Disaster Preparedness Committee statement of purpose – Eric Epley, Chair

The GETAC Disaster Preparedness Committee is dedicated to enhancing Texas's emergency medical response and trauma system resilience in the face of disasters, mass casualty incidents (MCI), and public health emergencies.

Through collaborative planning, innovative solutions, and strategic coordination with emergency medical services (EMS), trauma systems, hospitals, and government agencies, the committee seeks to improve the state's capacity to respond effectively to emergencies and protect public health and safety.

5. Review and approval of November 2024 meeting minutes – Eric Epley, Chair
6. GETAC chair announcements – Alan Tyroch, MD, GETAC Chair
7. EMS/Trauma Systems update – Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joseph Schmider, State EMS Director

Discussion and possible action on the following items:

8. Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) updates – Sara Jensen
9. Statewide EMS/EMTF wristband project and Pulsara updates – Eric Epley, Chair
10. Prehospital Whole Blood Task Force report – Eric Epley, Chair
11. National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) 2.0 Pilot Project updates
12. Initiatives, programs, and potential research that might improve disaster preparedness and response in Texas – Eric Epley, Chair
13. 2025 committee priorities update – Eric Epley, Chair
14. General public comment – *Comment time may be limited at the Chair's discretion.*
15. Summary of action items to present at RAC meeting – Eric Epley, Chair
16. Summary of action items to present at GETAC meeting – Eric Epley, Chair
17. Review and list agenda items for the next meeting – Eric Epley, Chair
18. Next meeting date – Eric Epley, Chair
19. Adjournment – Eric Epley, Chair

Public Comment: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) welcomes public comments about topics related to Emergency Health Care. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this process by providing written public comments to DSHS by emailing deidra.lee@dshs.texas.gov no later than 5:00 PM, February 28, 2025. Please include your name and either the organization you are representing or the fact that you are speaking as a private citizen. Written comments are limited to three minutes and will be read during the meeting for consideration by the Council. The request must contain your name, the name of the organization you represent or that you are speaking as a private citizen, and your direct phone number.

Public comment is limited to three minutes. Speakers must state their name, affiliation, and on whose behalf they are speaking. Public members who are using handouts are asked to provide an electronic copy in accessible PDF format that will be distributed by DSHS staff to Council members and state staff and for public distribution. Handouts are limited to two pages of documentation (paper size: 8.5" by 11", one side only). Handouts must be emailed to DSHS by 5:00 PM, February 28, 2025, and include the name of the person commenting.

Note: These procedures may be revised at the discretion of DSHS.

Contact: Questions regarding agenda items, content, or meeting arrangements should be directed to Jorie Klein, DSHS, at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov.

People with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting and require auxiliary aids or services should contact Jorie Klein at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov at least 72 hours before the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.