

# Emergency Resource Management



EDUCATION



CONSULTING



STAFFING



## “When Staffing Matters”

### New Regulations close loop-hole in Stand-by coverage, sort of

With the recently revised and newly adopted OEMS Regulations this past summer, the issue of providing Stand-by coverage has been better defined, and yet, is still somewhat ill-defined. Where it has been interpreted by an Atty. General’s opinion in the late 90’s that not even Ambulance services should be doing stand-by services as it would take away from their primary obligation of answering 911 calls, the reality is many of today’s services do provide stand-by services. To that end, here’s where it becomes better defined, and yet now more difficult. If any individual member is providing non-911 services to any association, fair, league, etc. they are to be doing so as an official representative of the PSA agency and have all the required, listed equipment and capabilities outlined in the Regulations that a First Responder is required to have and use. It is no longer acceptable or legal to have an outside association or group hire an individual EMT to act as an independent EMT and get a stipend for standing there for the day meeting a paper requirement. If all the requirements aren’t met, there is a potential liability. Speaking of liability, there’s the issue of who is covering the lone EMT? If they are not an agent of the Corps. and being covered by the Corps., then they are violating the OEMS Regulations

### You’re HIPAA Compliant, but do you Practice compliance?

We’ve all heard the stories of services and technicians being called to task regarding being overheard while having conversations about certain types of calls or about individuals involved in calls. We all know we’re not supposed to, you can’t get out of any EMS class today without getting a lecture on this. And, we’ve all had to sit through our own internal HIPAA course. Hopefully that involved a quiz and a signed document swearing you’ll never say a thing. But who assures they were not crossing their fingers when this was signed or sworn to? Who assures you’re actually compliant? And, does this apply to Law Enforcement as well? Did you discuss this in

and are operating as an independent tech without a license, a.k.a. medical control. So what does all this mean? Well, if you are placing an Ambulance on the site and keeping it there for the duration—that is not answering 911 calls while there, then you’re probably fine. If you are placing or allowing Tech’s at a site then they need to have the radios and equipment required to be there and be acting in your official capacity.

Don’t have the abilities to provide this properly in-house? No problem. As a Staffing service, **ERM** is capable of providing temporary EMT’s during these events, contracted and paid through and representing your Corps. The association requesting your coverage gets their coverage, you do it legally and get the good PR for being able to do it *and* without straining your service or losing an Ambulance for the day to the event. And with the many Fairs, football leagues, High School and local town events planned throughout the year, this can be a real challenge for an Ambulance Corps.

For more info on how **ERM** can assist you with these type of temporary staffing services, call our office today.

“When Staffing Matters”

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB:  
[WWW.ERMANAGEMENT.COM](http://WWW.ERMANAGEMENT.COM)**

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**Training & Education**

**ERM** is conducting an EMT refresher course which is being sponsored by and held at the Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Association in Haddam, CT from Sept. 21 to 24, 2006. For more information, or to register, go to our website and click on Training & Education.

**ERM** will be conducting an Initial EMT-B course in East Hampton from Sept. 7 to Jan. 25, 2007; and, an Initial MRT course from Sept. 7 to Oct. 15, 2006. For more information, or to register, go to our website and click on Training & Education.

**ERM** has recently completed four full 8-hour Emergency Vehicle Operator Courses (EVOC), certifying over 75 drivers collectively. If you'd like a course delivered for your department, give ERM a call today.