Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice

Policy

**For Discussion**

# Background:

This addresses RECOGNITION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL LICENSURE

INTERSTATE COMPACT (“REPLICA”) **SECTION 5. CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE IN A REMOTE STATE**

*An individual may practice in a remote state under a privilege to practice only in the performance of the individual’s EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority, as defined in the rules of the Commission*

REPLICA legislation and the respective corresponding individual state laws that have passed states that the privilege to practice must be “as assigned by an appropriate authority” – but nowhere does it define what the term “appropriate authority” means.

The following is presented for discussion and determination of a definition:

1. A key term in this statement is “assigned” and closely related to: REPLICA SECTION 4. COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE; B. To exercise the privilege to practice under the terms and provisions of this compact, an individual must:

**3.Practice under the supervision of a medical director.**

REPLICA, Section 2. Definitions

“Medical Director” means: a physician licensed in a member state who is accountable for the care delivered by EMS personnel.

*An appropriate authority is* ***the EMS Agency*** *where the Medical Director is “located”.*

1. **US Fire Administration, Handbook for EMS Medical Directors, Chapter 1. The Modern EMS System**

EMS personnel are unique health-care professionals in that they typically provide medical care in the out-of-hospital setting following their EMS agency’s protocols and procedures, as approved by their medical director. Medical direction is a critical component in all aspects of an EMS agency’s operations.

1. One logical determination of the definition of “appropriate authority” would be:

**REPLICA, Section 1. Purpose**

*A state EMS office is authorized by the EMS Compact to afford immediate legal recognition to EMS personnel licensed in a member state* by –

**REPLICA Rules, Section 2. Definitions**

**2.13** Verification of *a Privilege to Practice (PTP) means: the individual’s authority to deliver emergency medical services in a remote state as authorized under the compact by* –

**2.8** ***An EMS Agency*** *means: an organization that is authorized by a state EMS authority to operate an ambulance service, or non-transport service given the authority* by –

**2.16** *State EMS Authority means: the board, office, or other agency with the legislative mandate to license EMS personnel*.

A State EMS Authority authorizes an EMS Agency as an “appropriate authority” an individual PTP in a member state.

1. **REPLICA Rules, Section 4. Privilege to Practice, 4.0 Recognition of Privilege to Practice.**

A remote state shall recognize the privilege to practice of an individual who is licensed in another member state, provided that:

(b) the individual is performing EMS duties that are assigned by an **EMS agency** that is authorized in the remote state (for purposes of this section, such duties shall include the individual's travel to, from and between the location(s) in the remote state at which the individual's assigned EMS duties are to be performed);

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Whereas, REPLICA Sec. 5 states *An individual may practice in a remote state under a privilege to practice only in the performance of the individual’s EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority, as defined in the rules of the Commission;*

Whereas, it has been undetermined what defines what the term “appropriate authority” means;

Whereas, the Rule is intended to establish a definition of appropriate authority as an **EMS Agency**;

The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice adopts this policy.

Adopted by the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice on xx xx, 202x