Date: November 20, 2018
To: All Connecticut certified & licensed EMS organizations
From: Raffaella Coler RN, MEd., Paramedic Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services
Re: Clarification regarding working outside of the 911 system

The purpose of this communication is to clarify questions regarding the ability of individual EMS providers to work outside of the 9-1-1 system.

Pursuant to Regulations of CT State Agencies 19a-179-9(i) Specifically Prohibited acts, no person, regardless of certification, shall perform treatment methods in Sec. 19a-179-12 (b) unless acting as part of the emergency medical services system.

Therefore, individual EMS Providers (EMR, EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic) are prohibited from practicing independently of an EMS Provider organization by volunteering or contracting as EMS or “staff” at an event to ‘stand-by’ in anticipation of responding to medical calls. Examples of such events may include, but are not be limited to: fairs, music venues, school sports games, horse shows, ski slopes, summer camps, daycare facilities, etc.

Individual EMS providers are not prohibited from working independently providing First Aid, CPR/AED and bleeding control skills that the general public might also be trained to provide. When functioning in this role, the individual EMS provider may not represent themselves as an EMS Provider and must remain within the scope of the First Aid, CPR/AED or bleeding control curriculum authorized by the approved entity (i.e. American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or Stop the Bleed).

Further clarification can be found in the 1991 Attorney General’s opinion (which can be found on the Communications & Reference Documents page of the OEMS website), which states: “Emergency medical services personnel may not render treatment independent of the emergency medical services system and other than in the emergency medical context”.

Please contact your Regional Coordinator for any follow up questions.