



### **EMS Information Bulletin 2022-06**

**DATE:** May 4, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Bureau Director

**TO:** PA EMS Agencies  
PA EMS Providers  
PA Regional EMS Councils

**FROM:** Wendy Braund, MD, MPH, MEd, FACPM  
Deputy Secretary for Health Preparedness and Community  
Protection  
PA Department of Health

After serving as Acting Director of the Bureau of EMS since the departure of the previous director in February, Dr. Aaron Rhone has been named Bureau Director for EMS, effective May 2, 2022.

Aaron has served the Commonwealth for the last eight years within the Bureau of EMS and has a total of 12 years of Commonwealth service. Prior to his service as Bureau Director, Aaron served as the EMS Program Manager for System Operations and as an EMS Program Specialist. During his tenure with the Department of Health, Aaron has also served in various roles within the Department Operations Center in both the Ebola and COVID-19 responses.

Prior to joining the Department of Health, Aaron served as an Emergency Management Specialist within the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency's (PEMA) Training and Exercise Division. During his tenure at PEMA, Aaron served as a subject matter expert on training and exercises. In 2014, Aaron was named the lead civilian planner for the Vigilant Guard Exercise. Vigilant Guard was a combined military and civilian exercise that provides a training venue for over 3,200 military and civilian responders. For his dedication to this project, Aaron was awarded the Pennsylvania National Guard Meritorious Service Medal.

Outside of his roles within the Commonwealth, Aaron serves as part-time faculty for Columbia Southern University (CSU), teaching in the Emergency Medical Services Administration programs within the College of Safety and Emergency Services. Aaron, in his role at CSU, serves on the Faculty Advisory Council and was named the 2021 Robert G. Mayes Sr., Distinguished Faculty of the Year for the College of Safety and Emergency Services. Additionally, in his role as an academic in both the student and faculty roles, Aaron has

authored several articles on the topics of coaching and mentoring, leadership development, and organizational bench strength.

Educationally, Aaron holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership from Northcentral University, Master of Public Administration and Master of Science in Emergency Services Management from Columbia Southern University, and Bachelor of Arts in Emergency and Disaster Management from American Public University

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Rhone on his new role with the department!

Please direct any questions to my attention and thank you for all that you do every day.