



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY



Peter J. Boynton
Commissioner

ADVISORY BULLETIN 2010-5
Issued July 12, 2010

RE: Standard Operating Procedure for Activation of Medical Reserve Corps Teams by DEMHS Under Title 28

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has established the attached Standard Operating Procedure for the approval of Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) activities by DEMHS. Under Title 28 of the Connecticut General Statutes, MRC members are considered "civil preparedness force" members "while engaging in authorized civil preparedness duty or while assisting or engaging in authorized training, for the purpose of eligibility for immunity from liability as provided in §28-13 and for death, disability and injury benefits as provided in §28-14." Any member of the MRC who is called upon either by civil preparedness personnel or state or municipal police personnel to assist in any emergency shall be deemed to be engaging in civil preparedness duty while assisting in such emergency or while engaging in training under the auspices of DEMHS, the Department of Public Safety, the Division of State Police, or a municipal police department, for the purpose of eligibility for benefits provided under §28-14. Members of the MRC who are not paid state or municipal employees may receive Title 28 protections if they are activated with the prior approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS). Conn. Gen. Stat. §28-7(h).

Under §28-1(5), the state Department of Public Health (DPH) and its local and intrastate regional health partners are responsible for establishing and tracking the professional qualifications of MRC members. In order to be eligible for Title 28 protections and benefits, an MRC member must also satisfy the loyalty oath requirements of §28-12.

The following is a summary of the flow of a request for MRC activation by DEMHS, which is described in more detail in the Standard Operating Procedure. For purposes of Title 28 protection, "activation" means both training in preparation of, and response to, an emergency. It is not anticipated that Title 28 protection will be sought for routine, regularly-scheduled meetings of the MRC:

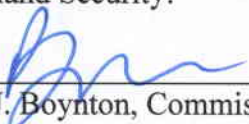
- The local Emergency Management Director, with MRC Unit Leader, submits request for activation to DEMHS Regional Coordinator. Request includes roster of MRC members likely to be activated;
- DEMHS Regional Coordinator reviews and if approval is recommended, submits request to DPH State MRC Coordinator;
- DPH State MRC Coordinator reviews and if approval is recommended, submits request to DEMHS Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security;

- DEMHS Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security reviews and approves or disapproves, and notifies the DEMHS Regional Coordinator, who notifies the requesting jurisdiction of approval or disapproval.

If the request is an imminent emergency, the local EMD and MRC Unit Leader may orally request the approval of the DEMHS Regional Coordinator, who will notify the DEMHS Director immediately. The local EMD and MRC Unit Leader must follow up with a written request as soon as possible, but not more than 48 hours after the initial request is made.

DEMHS has also created a Standard Operating Procedure and set of forms for use in requesting activation under Connecticut General Statutes Title 28. These materials are attached to this Advisory Bulletin.

Issued by order of the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security:



Peter J. Boynton, Commissioner

Date 7/12/2010