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# FIRE DEPARTMENT-BASED AMBULANCE SERVICE

*Where Are We Now And Where Are We Going?*

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# OBJECTIVES

- **Answer your Questions!**
  - Discuss where we are now in fire-based EMS and evolving “hybrid” systems
  - Discuss the municipal operating certificate model
  - Discuss new authorization to bill under General Municipal Law § 209-b
  - Discuss Proposed Legislation

# WHERE WE ARE NOW: FIRE-BASED EMS

- Fire Department/Fire Company-run EMS (billing and non-billing)
- Former Fire-Based EMS spun out of Fire Department for billing
- Staff shortages/ aging volunteer population
- “Hybrid” Staffing

# WHERE WE ARE NOW: FIRE-BASED EMS

- **Changes to GML 209-b and GML 122-b in 2022**
- Fire Department BLS ambulance services that choose to bill must contract with an ALS service to establish fees for ALS services and detail how the ALS provider will be reimbursed.
- Monies received from billing must be used to offset the costs of providing ambulance services to the Authority Having Jurisdiction over the fire department or fire company.

# WHERE WE ARE NOW: FIRE-BASED EMS

- Case law from the Appellate Division, Fourth Department
  - [Matter of Murray v N. Greece Fire Dist., 199 AD3d 1337 \[4th Dept 2021\]](#)
- Contracts with AHJs – Identify the AHJ

# WHERE WE ARE GOING: FIRE-BASED EMS

- Municipal Operating Authority – PHL § 3008 (All Levels)
  - NYSDOH Policy Statement 09-01
- Expansion of Public Health Law to include “Community Paramedicine”
- Adirondack Park District – Proposed Legislation (S-7642A)

# WHERE WE ARE GOING – PROPOSED LEGISLATION

- **Adirondack Park District – Proposed Legislation (S-7642A) (A-2419)**
- Establish a special district for the financing and operation of general ambulance services as set forth by this section, whereby any county, city, town or village, either wholly or partially within the Adirondack Park, acting individually, or jointly with any other county, city, town and/or village, either wholly or partially within the Adirondack Park, through its governing body or bodies, **following applicable procedures as are required for the establishment of fire districts** in article eleven of the town law or following applicable procedures as are required for the establishment **of joint fire districts** in article eleven-a of the town law, with such special district being authorized by this section to be established in all or any part of any such participating county or counties, town or towns, city or cities and/or village or villages.
- Abolishes any preexisting ambulance district where a new district is formed

# WHERE WE ARE GOING – PROPOSED LEGISLATION

- Expansion of Definition of Emergency Medical Services – rejected – (S-4007B)
- Addition of PHL 3032 “Mobile Integrated Healthcare” – rejected by Assembly in Budget proposal



# THANK YOU!

- Questions?

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