

# Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission

9/22/2021 Meeting

# Agenda

Welcome

Introductions

Setting Ground Rules

Commission development and remarks from James Baker

Public Open Meeting Policies Review

Brief Presentation: VT ESP and Mental Health/ Wellness

Review the charge of the Commission

Break (10-15 mins) [Break around 10:50]

Elect a chair and vice-chair

Determine terms of Commission members

Set future meeting schedule (at least quarterly)

Select next meeting (October/November)

Wrap-up

# Introductions

Who are you?



# Ground Rules

1. Take care yourself.
2. This is a public discussion, not a debate.
3. Everyone is encouraged to participate.
4. One person speaks at a time.
5. No one or two individuals should dominate a discussion.
6. When you speak, state your name, and what sector you represent.
7. Listen to and respect other points of view.
8. State views and ask genuine questions.
9. Focus on interests, not positions.

Take care



<https://www.healthvermont.gov/first-responder-wellness>



Commissioner Baker

# Vermont's open meeting law

Requires all meetings of public bodies to be open to the public at all times, unless a specific exception applies. 1 V.S.A. § 312(a)(1). The purpose of the law is to promote transparency, accountability, and better decision-making in government.

In general, the law requires public bodies to:

- Provide advance public notice of meetings, including meeting agendas.
- Discuss all business and take all actions in open meeting, unless an exception in statute applies.
- Allow members of the public to attend and participate in meetings.
- Take meeting minutes and make them available to the public.

# Executive Session

- The Commission's meetings shall be **open to the public** in accordance with 1 V.S.A. chapter 5, subchapter 2. Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 313, the Commission may go into **executive session** in the event a circumstance or an event involving a specific emergency service provider is described, regardless of whether the emergency service provider is identified by name.



# Sectors Emergency Services Providers



Corrections  
Law Enforcement  
Dispatchers  
Fire  
EMS





Exposure

Resiliency

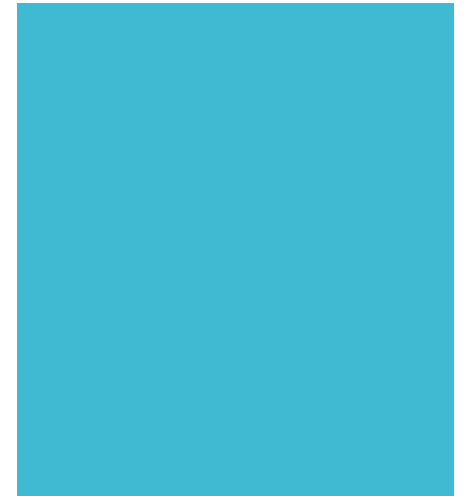
Support  
Systems

Data

Access  
to  
services

Why are we here?

Coming together as a collective is going to allow for all of Vermont's first responder sectors to hear and learn what challenges exist, what needs exist, what resources exist, and hopefully what successes exist.





ACT 37  
Emergency Service Provider Wellness  
Commission Act

page 2

# Summary

- Represent Emergency Service Providers and help others to understand the unique challenges we face
- Increase capacity to provide support through qualified clinicians and peer support services
- Identify Gaps & Strengths & Challenges of Vermont's systems to support providers and their families
- Develop recommendations that will increase successful interventions and support for emergency service providers to improve health outcomes, job performance, and personal well-being and reduce health risks, violations of employment, and violence associated with the impact of untreated trauma
- **Annual Report** with recommendations to Governor and General Assembly



Break



## Elections and terms

Elect a chair and vice-chair

Determine terms of Commission members

10- 1 year

10- 2 years

4- 3 years

## Meeting Schedule

Set future meeting schedule (at least quarterly)  
Bi-monthly? Monthly?

Select next meeting (October/ November)  
October 27 or November 17



# Let's get to work

Stephanie Busch

802.363.0091

[Stephanie.busch@vermont.gov](mailto:Stephanie.busch@vermont.gov)

