

THE BRIGHTON BUGLE

The Official Publication of Brighton Volunteer Ambulance - 12/22/2023

"Reliable, Professional, Always Ready"

ON CALL CHIEF

Date(s)	Officer	Phone
Friday (12/22) - Friday (12/29)	3M-10 - J. Tomaschko 3M-30 - T.Brown	(585) 474-5225 (707) 888-8945

	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Shift(s)	All set	18-06	18-06,18-23	18-06,18-23	18-23	08-18,18-23, 18-06	07-17,18-23, 18-06

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

Happy Holidays

I just wanted to take a moment and thank you all for everything you do here at BVA. The hustle, the late calls, the team work. BVA is nothing without a solid group of dedicated providers making a great team and working together. I could accomplish nothing without all of you. Please have a happy and safe holiday.

-Chief Tomaschko

New Faces

Adam Koch. Adam is a part time EMT and volunteer firefighter. He comes to us with a desire to expand on his clinical experience.



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p: 585.271.2718 | f: 585.442.9198 | w: www.brightonambulance.org

BVA Suggestion box: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6999428/BVA-Suggestion-Box>

Monroe County Peer Support - 585.310.1661

BVA is committed to following an effective compliance program and preventing issues, errors, fraud, waste and abuse.

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Sahil Singhal- Sahil is a driven Paramedic. Currently full time at Penfield, he is looking for some overnight part time hours here.



Brittanie Adams Brittanie comes to us with 3 years of experience at AMR. Shes a new full time EMT and will be working days.



Welcome to the Team!

Patient Assistance

As we are seeing some newer faces here at BVA, I thought it would be a good time to talk about signoffs. We have a unique arrangement here with the Town, and so it's required that we are fairly particular about how we list the "Outcomes" of our signed refusals.

Treated Refused: Either ALS or BLS, this requires an intervention beyond an assessment. Bandaging, Ice packs, BG checks, are all considered "treatments" here. As would an IV and D10% administration or oral glucose and aspirin.

Evaluated Refused: Again, either ALS or BLS. This requires the patient to present with a new complaint or symptom that caused them to call 911. The resident who was feeling dizzy and now feels fine and is refusing. The patient who fell on a hard surface and is presenting with bruising and is on blood thinners.

Patient Assistance: This is for the "simple" lift assists. The patient slid off the couch onto a carpeted floor, or out of bed, is reporting no new symptoms or injuries, and simply can't get up.

Consequently, all of these calls still require 2 sets of Vitals, and all other protocols and SOC's should be followed.

-Chief Tomaschko

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Clinical Care

Narcotics- When administering narcotics please make every attempt to use the medications with the earliest expiration date. This will make Nate's job easier as he needs to take all expired medications back to Strong. When doing the special in EMS Charts please make sure the following information is in the special report. **Dose, Lot#, expiration date and BVA CS number.**

New 12-lead SOC and also New BGL Soc have been sent out and can be found on the BVA page. If there are questions or concerns please see me.

Also, when returning kits to the safe, please be sure to cinch the seal all the way. There have been many instances where the seal was so loose, someone could have removed a vial with the seal remaining intact.

Captain Hockenberry

Logistics-

New iGels are now in the ET kits.

Pediatric ET tubes, blades and handle are now in the new purple PEDS Bag, thank you Bill. One of the two OB kits from the rig cabinets has been transferred into the PEDS bag. Please take the time to check out the PEDS bag.

We are in the finalization of the new **Green** ALS/BLS flycar bags. In the event of a bls tech is on the flycar, the green bag will be removed and replaced with a standard **Red** BLS bag. Please make sure you have an AED and BLS kit with the flycar.

Still missing both temp ID cards. Both cards have been deactivated until I get them back. They need to be returned to me ASAP.

-Captain McCaughey

Uploads

There has been a rash of intermittent failures in the Tempus uploads. This is an EMS charts problem, not a monitor problem. During their maintenance this past week, something had a negative effect on mapping and some uploads are not working. EMS charts is aware and they are working on it. Please create a support ticket when this happens. This can be done by clicking on the “open support” tab at the bottom of the left menu column. Once you have opened a ticket, please send me the ticket number so I can forward it to the reps we have been working with on the recent import fixes.

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There are 2 ways to attach your upload information. You can either print a copy of the ECG or rhythm strip, scan and attach it to the chart, or, any officer who has Corsium access can download the full report in a PDF and attach it to the chart. This is the preferred method.

-Chief Tomaschko

Daily Rig Checks

I have published a new daily rig check form to the website. We will no longer have a separate form for ALS/BLS checks and options for the sheet will populate based on your selections. (If you indicate you are on a BLS ambulance, there will be no ALS gear listed etc).

Only one sheet is to be completed per crew. There is a field to indicate that both partners are in agreement over the state of the equipment/truck. Checks are a team task.

In the interest of convenience I have opted to add a “select all” button where I can to speed up your check. This will be removed if I find that checks are not being done or done correctly. The sheet is also pretty limited in terms of what is required to fill out but if trucks continue to be left in poor condition at EOS this is going to change. **The less work you make for me, the less work I will make for you, do not be the person that ruins this for everybody.**

I also want to point out that there are required fields on the sheet with the expectation being that if the item is missing when you check the truck, you remedy this, and then check the box. If whatever is missing is not something you can easily remedy, the shift supervisor needs to be made aware as the truck cannot be in service until this is fixed. Please document any missing items in the comments box at the end of the form so that we can track discrepancies. I will take this opportunity to also remind you that your start of shift check is a DOH requirement.

Lastly, please recognize that I am human and there is no simple graphical interface to edit these sheets - as such it is possible that I have missed something. If this is the case, please reach out to me via email so I can update this ASAP. Thank you for your patience.

-Captain Sondhi

Rig Washing

We recently got in a few foam cannons for the pressure washer. This is to hopefully reduce workload, save soap, preserve the vinyl decals. When preparing the foam cannon you should only use **a little bit of soap** and fill the rest of the container with warm water. The soap is a concentrate mix. Putting more soap in the bottle will not increase the amount of foam, it will just waste soap. Also, when putting the spray nozzle back on the pressure washer, please ensure it is secure by pointing it at the ground before pointing it at the vehicle.

While the foam cannons reduce the effort required in putting soap on the vehicle, if the truck is visibly dirty, you will likely still need to use a brush to agitate the mixture and get the dirt off. In the summer/spring the foam cannon should suffice without mechanical agitation.

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Please wash your vehicle at EOS when it is possible to do so (PCRs and restock take precedence). We all know how much damage salt and corrosion can do.

- Captain Sondhi

Lieutenant's Lit Bits

MyWayfinder - For the Somewhat Less-Emergent Situations

[MyWayfinder](#) is a platform that makes finding services like home-health aid, day programs, mental health counseling, transportation, and more, easier and more effective in this age of tech. Put together by the local non-profit TogetherNow, it has a search function to locate providers in the region, even by zip code. Highly recommend saving the link in your phone as occasionally we're asked where patients can find help outside of the hospital.

Nitrates, Asprin, MI oh my.....

There has been an unfortunate trend of ALS ePCRs where patients with chest pain of cardiac nature are not receiving nitrates or aspirin.

The recent, and past, studies show that the short term and long term survival rates increase, and re-infarction rates decrease. Per protocol, as long as the systolic blood pressure is above 120/sys, it is ok to administer nitrates. A patent IV should be established prior to nitrates, particularly if the blood pressure is in the lower ranges.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the training and education department.

Stay safe!

-Lt. Cohen

Drive Cams - Concerning Trends

Seatbelts

Ensure you and your partner are wearing your seatbelts appropriately before the vehicle is in motion. It's against the law and clearly unsafe not to.

Electronic Device Distractions

In the past two months, we have had two near collisions due to the driver being distracted. One distraction involved the MDT and another involved a cellular device. If you need to navigate using your cellular device, use the cellphone holder that is placed on the

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ambulances / flycars instead of holding it in your hand. Passengers should be able to relay information on the MDT to the driver as necessary.

Excessive speed / Driving too fast for conditions

In rain, snow or inclement weather, be extra attentive to your speed. Traveling >25+ MPH during a red response in any condition is unacceptable and reckless. Traveling >15+ MPH during a non-red response in any condition is also unacceptable.

Failing to Stop / Incomplete Stops

Come to complete stops at stop signs. During red responses at right light intersections, be sure that you stop to ensure every driver sees you and stops before you enter the intersection.

Fleet

FLEET STATUS BOARD Dec 17th thru Dec 23		
Unit	Assigned to:	Note:
3049	Crew 2 / 7	
3059	Crew 3	
3069	Reserve	
3079	Crew 1 / 6	
3089	Crew 4 / 5	
Medic 30	Primary	
Medic 31	Secondary	
Hey Folks : Friendly reminder to unplug all rigs before washing Quick reminder : Plug in portables and Tempus at your EOS Thanks for all you do		

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

No News

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BUSINESS MANAGER/HR

Updated BVA Policy Manual

I had originally stated that the latest & greatest HR Policy manual would be disseminated today. Unfortunately it won't be, Bene-Care needs a few more days to update it per the changes requested. My apologies for this; I should have confirmed the date with them prior to any commitments. Barring any additional issues, it should be out next week. I will email the careerstaff@ group in our system when it is available as well as provide each person the acknowledgement that must be signed. Meanwhile, please field any questions through either Laura or myself. Thank you for your patience!



Hardy Schulz	December 14th
Joan Cohen	December 22 nd
Lindsay Reilly	December 29th

Words From The Board

From The President

As you may recall a Committee was formed to tackle the issues of Recruitment and Retention. The group of employees and volunteers had numerous meetings and as a result made a presentation of the issues they identified. The Board requested detail from the steering group on each of the issues and research on the costs necessary to support the recommendations. The Board review committee will be

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meeting again on Dec 21,2023 to review the cost implications, finalize any loose ends, and prepare a recommendation for the January 10, 2024 Board meeting. The items not contained in our current budget would need to be paid for with other trade-offs to fund them through the end of our fiscal year which is August 31, 2024.

I ask for your support in the time it takes to complete the analysis, cost estimates and repurposing of funds as needed. These are the minimum steps necessary to proceed and I thank all of the participants for their hard work and dedication to BVA. I would also wish you and yours a Happy Holiday season and a Happy New Year. All of your contributions count to keep BVA moving forward.

Dennis J. Mietz

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