

# THE BRIGHTON BUGLE

The Official Publication of Brighton Volunteer Ambulance - 1/5/2024

***"Reliable, Professional, Always Ready"***

## ON CALL CHIEF

Date(s)	Officer	Phone
Friday (1/5) - Friday (1/12)	3M-10 - J. Tomaschko 3M-30 - T.Brown	(585) 474-5225 (707) 888-8945

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

## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

### ***Part Time Availability***

As a reminder, the practice for submitting availability as a part time or volunteer staff member, and schedule assembly is this:

- Availability is due by the EOD on the 5th of the preceding month. If this is not possible for reasonable circumstances, an email must be sent to the Chief, expressing why, what the circumstances are, and when availability will be submitted for that individual.
- Members who have requested static shifts, are not required to submit availability, unless that arrangement changes.
- Any availability submitted past the 5th is expected to be in the form of either direct email to the Chief, or shift bid requests. The availability report will not be revisited after the 6th, and the finalization of the schedule. Bids are checked weekly.
- Any member who fails to either: Request an exception, submit availability by the 5th, or establish a static shift prior to the 5th, will receive an email. This email will serve as a verbal warning and be entered in the employees personnel file. These emails are being sent on behalf of the Chief (don't shoot the messenger). Failing to satisfy the above requirements a second time within a 12 month period will result in a written warning.

I'm sorry if this sounds gruff, I just want to make sure no one is caught off guard.

-Chief Tomaschko

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p: 585.271.2718 | f: 585.442.9198 | w: [www.brightonambulance.org](http://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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## **WEMS**

By now I'm sure most of you have heard Webster Ambulance will be closing their doors by 3/31. Most likely, in the coming weeks, there will be an increase in requests for mutual aid in Webster, as our EMS brothers and sisters prepare to find new employment. This will have a trickle down effect on BVA as our neighbors adjust to the increase in call volume. The current state of EMS in this region is very tenuous, and with the system stretched so thin, the loss of any resources is going to be felt by many, if not all agencies. Please be patient with us, your family here at BVA, and all your brothers and sisters in EMS, regardless of agency, as we navigate this change.

-Chief Tomaschko

## **Clinical Care**

As a reminder ALS assessment needs to be done on page 8 for all calls that are dispatched to ALS and handed down to BLS providers.

If you receive a QA flag please address them as soon as possible.

I will be working on updating our QA policy and also our documentation standards and policy.

**Captain Hockenberry**

## **Uploads**

The latest regarding the uploads is that they have discovered there is an inconsistency with dates/times between the hours of 1900-0000 that have led to failed imports. A “hotfix” is on the way and should be implemented shortly.

-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.

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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.

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**

### ***That Syncing Feeling***

If your Tempus Pro and LS units are taking their sweet time synchronizing, try holding down the **blue** menu button in the bottom-right corner of the Pro, and the bottom-most menu button on the LS at the same time. This pairs them manually so you can finish your rig check with the peace of mind that your cardiac monitor is functioning properly. See the buttons highlighted in the following illustration. Remember that both will chime while showing the solid Bluetooth symbol on each screen as they synchronize.

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## Uniforms-

Just a quick update on Uniforms.

I appreciate the quick response in receiving a few requests right away.

Unfortunately, my reply and/or distribution will not be as quick. There is some clean up and organizing that needs to be done,, and I will fill orders as I find the supplies to fill them with. Please bear with me, as we are going through the process.

Stay safe!

-Lt. Cohen

## New ALS Flycar Bag

Now that the new ALS Flycar Bag is in service - **Please do not change anything and this includes adding extra overstock.** Many overstock items were found during the last check.

The bag is OK to be temporarily unsealed so everyone can look through the bag themselves while on shift.

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## ***Mandatory Physical Abilities Assessment (SOP #137)***

The sign up sheet with available dates / time slots for the Physical Abilities Assessment are available in the Dispatch Room. If you have any questions, please see Gorski or Jevon.

**The available dates and times are below:**

Thursday, April 4th, 2024 - 09:00-19:00

Friday, April 5th, 2024 - 09:00-19:00

Thursday, April 11th, 2024 - 09:00-19:00

Friday, April 12th, 2024 - 09:00-19:00

## ***Fleet***

FLEET STATUS BOARD Jan 1 thru Jan 8		
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	
<b>Hey Folks : Friendly reminder to unplug all rigs before washing</b> <b>Quick reminder : Plug in portables and Tempus at your EOS</b> <b>Thanks for all you do</b>		

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## TRAINING DEPARTMENT

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### ***State Required Training***

Just a reminder, the state required training is assigned through Vector Solutions. Those due dates creep up quick folks. Please get these done if you have some downtime.

## BUSINESS MANAGER/HR



Laura Beherns will be leaving BVA effective January 26th. She is leaving to go back to her roots by writing databases & providing analysis for a subsidiary of Paychex. Some of you may know, she came to us having worked at Paychex for 9+ years. While I'm personally saddened by this news, please help me wish her all the best with her new endeavors! I would like to thank her for being a great employee and for providing the utmost professionalism, responsibility and support in her position and for everyone at BVA. We wish you all the best Laura!



Paul Fredericks - Jan 3rd  
Timya Phillips - Jan 5th  
Akhil Sondhi - Jan 12th  
Nate Bader - Jan 13th  
Derek Foley - Jan 17th

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Sam Bitter - 1.09.2022

Dayne Burroughs - 1.30.2023

Michael Pollock - 1.30.1987

## ***Meeting Minutes***

### **Summary of Board of Directors Mtg held by zoom on December 13, 2023:**

Town Supervisor and zoning board member passed on kudos regarding our two recent calls for service.

Recently, BVA became a member of Brighton Rotary who gave us an orientation about how they support communities locally/nationally/internationally. Dennis, Laura, and Jevon will be attending their January meeting to give a presentation about BVA.

Thank you to Michael Pollock and Jeff Gutenber for their Board service as December is their final meeting as members.

Funding request approved for new conference room in Business Office area and it will also repurpose the area by Jevon's office to be a conference area. Funding from capital reserve.

Website is being reviewed for updates and improvements.

o Added a "message from the president" requesting donations to our fund drive.

WROC commercials – our marketing representative is looking for another sponsor in early 2024.

Fall '23 fund drive campaign was mailed around 11/15/23. As of 12/7/23, we've received \$19,526, which is up significantly year over year so far.

Direct Pay bill was signed by the governor.

o The BVA receivable is about \$235k on average. We'll receive close to 100% of this amount when the bill goes into effect in 2025.

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## Revenue Committee:

Potential projects are to research working with Strong on coordinated transports, bequeath program, grant writing, expand training programs, WROC could do a commercial for us at a lower rate (topics: recruitment, training).

## Retention and Recruitment:

Complete recommendation will be provided in January meeting including any funding requests.

Employee Manual completed.

## Independent Audit:

January meeting will have what was evaluated and resolved, and the economic impact with PAB.

Included will be any recommendations for BVA or PAB going forward.

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## Words From The Board

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