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## News

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### **NHTSA Releases National EMS Advisory Council Summary Report**

WASHINGTON – The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) today released a summary report of recommendations made by the National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC) to both NHTSA and other federal EMS leaders. The report combines information from numerous NEMSAC documents and advisories and provides the council with a single resource for effectively communicating their recommendations to all EMS stakeholders.

The report, an overview of NEMSAC’s advisories and recommendations from 2010 through mid-2012, focuses on three areas of priority outlined by the council — EMS safety, evidence-based EMS, and performance-based funding and reimbursement.

NHTSA has already made progress on several of the recommendations, including working on a formal strategy to create a culture of safety in EMS; funding a three year project to improve the statewide implementation of evidence-based guidelines; and facilitating a project aimed at improving the quality of data available to NHTSA and other EMS organizations.

Since the 1960s, NHTSA has provided tools and resources for improving EMS systems nationwide. NEMSAC serves as an essential channel for input from the EMS community to NHTSA and its federal partners. The recommendations outlined in the summary report are based on this input and presented to NHTSA to assist the agency in fostering an efficient and effective EMS system that improves patient outcomes.

The NEMSAC was chartered by the Secretary of Transportation in 2007 to provide advice and guidance to the Department and to the Federal Interagency Committee on EMS (FICEMS) on matters relating to EMS.

The Summary Report can be downloaded at [www.ems.gov](http://www.ems.gov).

For more information about the current NEMSAC membership, or upcoming meetings, visit [www.ems.gov/NEMSAC.htm](http://www.ems.gov/NEMSAC.htm).

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