



Grays Harbor EMS & Trauma Care Council



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MPD MEMO

September 10, 2019

TO: All EMS Agencies
FROM: Julie M Buck, MD
MPD-Grays Harbor & N. Pacific Counties
RE: *State Training Program: Disability Awareness Education*

In 2017, the Washington State Legislature passed SHB 1258, known as the Travis Alert Act (RCW 43.70.490). The law required the Department of Health to collaborate with Department of Social and Health Services, State Fire Marshal's Office, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Washington State Council of Firefighters to review existing training programs both local and nationally, to design a state wide training program that will familiarize fire department and emergency medical service personnel with the techniques, procedures, and protocols for best handling situations in which persons with disabilities are present at the scene of an emergency.

To satisfy the State requirement for this mandatory training it has been built into our current State and County approved OTEP program for October 2019. To accomplish this training I have opted to use the State recognized disability awareness video created by Snohomish County EMS. The link to this video is located on our www.ghems.org website. Once on the website click on Contacts & Links at the top of the page, scroll down the list to Misc. Training Links, and click on *Travis Alert Act Training Link*. It is also available on EMS Connect under the Agency Uploads tab. You will need Wi-Fi access to stream this [YouTube video](#).

All EMS providers within the GHEMS system will view this video, and as this is a State mandated training, this video must be viewed under the supervision of an approved OTEP instructor within the GHEMS system. Just as with regular OTEP training, the instructor will properly complete a current OTEP roster in full and submit it to the GHEMS office who will document completion by each provider.

Per the State, this training is mandatory for all EMS personnel, and must be completed by December 31, 2019.

Julie M Buck, MD, MPD