

Pfeiffer, Nadine

From: Alan Thompson <DATHompson@cabarruscounty.us>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Rulescoordinator, Dhsr
Cc: Chuck Lewis; Powell, Jeff; ERMDcraig@aol.com
Subject: Proposed OEMS Rule Change

This correspondence represents my strong objection to the proposed OEMS rule change found in 10A NCAC 13P .0216 regarding dangerous weapons.

The language essentially prevents all weapons. Conversations we have conducted through the NC EMS Administrators Association and other groups are not consistent with this proposed language. This is an issue that should be decided by the system, system leadership, and the medical director. As violence continues to increase against EMS providers and public safety in general, we are moving in the wrong direction with prohibiting all weapons. Chemical irritants, conducted electrical devices, and batons such as ASP may have a place in emergency response with the proper training. The public safety officer model of EMS may not be a far stretch as we continue to see issues in this country similar to others who now arm their EMS providers. Our agency is actually providing body armor to every employee as the threat climate has changed.

This proposed language does not represent the best interest of EMS providers or systems.

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