



United States EMS Compact

The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice

5010 E. Trindle Road, Suite 202

Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

(724) 888-4142

PRESS RELEASE

Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice Appoints Commissioner Michael Johnson (GA) to Executive Committee

14 JAN 2026 Washington, DC — The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice, the governmental commission responsible for the implementation and operation of the United States EMS Compact, announced the appointment of Michael Johnson, MS, NRP, Commissioner for the State of Georgia, to the Commission's Executive Committee.



Commissioner Michael Johnson

Commissioner Johnson was appointed to fill the Executive Committee position recently vacated by Aaron Koehler of Wyoming. The appointment fills the remainder of the current term in accordance with the Compact's governing bylaws and ensures continuity of leadership for the Commission's day-to-day operations.

Michael Johnson serves as Director of the Georgia Office of EMS and Trauma at the Georgia Department of Public Health. He is an active member of the National Association of State EMS Officials and has served as Georgia's appointed Commissioner to the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice. Previously, Commissioner Johnson served as Deputy Director for Systems of Care and Director of the Office of Cardiac Care, where he led the designation of Georgia's first 41 Emergency Cardiac Care Centers and helped establish a sustainable statewide cardiac care system.

Prior to his service with the Georgia Department of Public Health, Commissioner Johnson taught EMS and emergency management at the university and college levels and served as Program Director for EMS education programs in both Alabama and Georgia. He also spent seven years as a CBRNE subject matter expert consultant supporting FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. Beginning his EMS career in 1995, he has maintained a longstanding commitment to improving EMS system performance and expanding access to care in rural and underserved communities.

The Executive Committee is responsible for managing the Interstate Commission's affairs between full Commission meetings, providing operational oversight, strategic direction, and continuity of governance. Under the Compact statute, each member state's governor appoints a commissioner to represent the state on the Interstate Commission.

Commission Chair Kraig Kinney of Indiana stated, "Commissioner Johnson brings deep operational, regulatory, and systems-of-care experience to the Executive Committee. His background in statewide system development and emergency preparedness will strengthen the Commission's ability to support a safe, mobile, and resilient EMS workforce."

Executive Director Donnie Woodyard, MAML, NRP, added, "Leadership continuity matters for a national regulatory body operating across state lines. Commissioner Johnson's appointment ensures experienced oversight during a critical period of growth for the United States EMS Compact and reinforces our commitment to public protection, accountability, and interstate collaboration."

Today, 25 states participate in the United States EMS Compact, enabling more than 450,000 EMS clinicians to practice across Compact member states using their active, unrestricted home-state license. This interstate licensure model strengthens emergency preparedness, supports workforce mobility, and enhances patient access to timely emergency medical care nationwide.

For more information about the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice and the United States EMS Compact, visit the Commission's official website.

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About the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice

The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice is the lead governmental authority in the United States responsible for regulating and overseeing the interstate practice of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Established by the Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate CompAct (REPLICA), the Commission is composed of appointed Commissioners from each Compact Member State and is vested with the authority to enforce compliance, administer national operations, resolve multistate regulatory and disciplinary issues, operate the National EMS Coordinated Database, and facilitate immediate license recognition and the Privilege to Practice across state lines. Operational 24/7, the EMS Compact enables more than 400,000 EMS clinicians in 25 member states to deliver care wherever and whenever needed—supporting routine operations, surge staffing, disaster response, recruitment and retention, and the demands of a modern, mobile workforce. The Commission safeguards public protection, enhances national preparedness, and stands as the definitive model for multistate licensure in healthcare.

The EMS Compact is law in the following states:

Alabama • Arkansas • Colorado • Delaware • Georgia • Idaho • Indiana • Iowa • Kansas • Louisiana • Mississippi • Missouri • Nebraska • Nevada • North Dakota • Oklahoma • Pennsylvania • South Carolina • South Dakota • Tennessee • Texas • Utah • Virginia • West Virginia • Wyoming