



**State of Louisiana**  
Department of Health and Hospitals  
Office of Public Health • Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

**Memorandum**

To: All EMS Providers

From: William Hineman, State Director  
Sammy Halphen, Chair EMS Certification Commission

Re: State Certification

DATE: December 10, 2009

The following information was discussed and/or decisions made during the EMS Certification Commission Meeting held on December 9, 2009.

**LAPSED EMT's:**

The following motion was passed granting amnesty for lapsed EMTs:  
For all current emergency medical personal holding a State of Louisiana expired certification that they be afforded an amnesty period to submit a properly completed recertification package postmarked or delivered to the Bureau of EMS by close of business on March 31, 2010. All fines in relation to holding an expired certification will be suspended until March 31, 2010. On April 1, 2010, any individual discovered holding an expired certification will be subject to investigation.

**Emergency Medical Responders:**

The Bureau has begun research into the pros and cons of National Registry for First Responders. Absolutely no decision has been made with regard to this issue.

**National Registry Certification and State Certification:**

Certification by the National Registry, by itself, does not give an individual the right to practice. See [http://nremt.org/nremt/about/Legal\\_Opinion.asp](http://nremt.org/nremt/about/Legal_Opinion.asp).

The following statement is directly quoted from the back of your National Registry Card:

“You must present your National EMS Certification to the proper state authorities to receive state licensure in order to practice.”