



NATIONAL
EMS MEMORIAL
FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON DC



2020 National EMS Moment of Silence Participant Information Sheet

These are unprecedented times for our world, our nation, and our collective first responder communities. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected virtually every aspect of our lives. This includes efforts by the organizations dedicated to honoring EMS personnel for their service and especially for those who have fallen in the line of duty. While this ruthless virus keeps us physically apart, we can still join together to make sure these heroes and their families receive the acknowledgment they deserve.

The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride (NEMSMBR), the National EMS Memorial Foundation (NEMSFMF), and the National EMS Memorial Service (NEMSMS) are coordinating the 2020 National EMS Moment of Silence and asking for broad participation. The Moment of Silence normally coincides with the annual National EMS Memorial Service which was postponed until next year due to COVID-19 precautions. With deep respect for the honorees and first responders who remain on the front lines, the National EMS Moment of Silence takes on greater importance as a meaningful reminder that the fallen will not be forgotten. It is a touchless, responsible, yet impactful means to pause and remember without taking away from the necessary work at hand.

The National EMS Moment of Silence will be observed on Saturday, May 16, 2020. It will begin at 1800 (6:00 PM) Eastern Daylight Time with a live-streamed reading of the names of the 24 Honorees originally planned for the 2020 Service, followed by an acknowledgement of those continuing to serve today and will culminate in a national moment of silence in a salute to all.

This endeavor provides an opportunity for anyone to honor and remember first responders and especially those EMS providers who have given their lives in the line of duty. It is also a way for the families and EMS colleagues of the fallen to feel the support of our nation. Normally during the Service, at a specified time, the screens fade to black and a simple message informs family members and other attendees that across the country radios are simultaneously broadcasting the message below as a unified show of support.

First responders, communications agencies and even members of the public wishing to participate are requested to observe 10-20 seconds of radio or general silence at the time indicated in the suggested script below.

[NOTE: ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME. Please adjust as required for your time zone to coincide simultaneously. Also, time transmission of any alert/activation tones to begin speaking at the time indicated below.]

Begin script:

18:04:50 (Insert tones as applicable, then wait 5 seconds)
(6:04:50 PM) **“All units please stand by for a special message...”**

18:04:55 **“Attention all units...”**

In conjunction with first responders across the nation and in recognition of the National EMS Memorial Service – an event that would be occurring now, but is postponed until next year due to continued COVID-19 efforts, this agency will observe a moment of radio silence in honor of our nation's Emergency Medical Services providers who have made the Ultimate Sacrifice, and given their lives in the line of duty. The fallen are not forgotten. We also pause in honor of those who continue to serve. Your commitment and sacrifice defy words and inspire us all.

Please stand by unless you have emergency traffic”

18:05:00 [Begin Moment of Silence]

18:05:20 **“This concludes the moment of silence. Thank you. Please resume normal radio traffic.”**
:End script

Live streaming of this event will be provided on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NEMSMS. We respectfully encourage everyone to post participation to social media platforms using **#moment2honor** and **#ultimatesacrifice**.

Thank you for your continued efforts to honor our fallen EMS providers. For more information please contact The National EMS Memorial Service at www.national-ems-memorial.org or our partners at The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride at www.nemsmb.org and The National EMS Memorial Foundation at www.emsmemorial.com.