STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

RE: RULES 64J-2.006, .010, .012, .013, and .016

Taken on: June 28th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Palm Beach County Health Department

800 Clematis Street

West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Taken before JESICA MARIA GARCIA GUTIERREZ, Court

Reporter and Notary Public in and for West Palm

Beach County, State of Florida at Large.

1	APPEARANCES:
2	
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4	(FDOH Bureau Chief of Emergency Medical Oversight)
5	STEVE MCCOY - PANEL
6	(FDOH EMS Administrator)
7	JOSHUA STURMS - PANEL
8	(FDOH Data Administrator)
9	KAREN CARD - PANEL
10	
11	
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1	MS. COLSTON: All right. Good morning. I
2	think we'll go ahead and get started. It's
3	9:05. For the record, we are at the Florida
4	Department of Health. The location is 800
5	forgive me if I say this wrong Clematis
6	AUDIENCE: Clematis.
7	MS. COLSTON: Clematis Street in West
8	Palm Beach, Florida. Today is June 28th, 2016
9	and we are gathered here for the purpose of
10	conducting a rule workshop for 64J-2.006, .010,
11	.012, .013, .016. For those of you who are
12	joining us on the conference call line, the
13	phone lines have been muted on your end to
14	minimize the background noise that we might
15	encounter. We will take comments. Please
16	send we'll take comments via email. I
17	apologize. Please send your requests to speak
18	if you are on the phone to:
19	joshua, J-O-S-H-U-A, .sturms, S-T-U-R-M-S, @flhealt
20	h.gov. and we are monitoring that email real
21	time, so please submit your request to speak if
22	you are on the conference call line at any
23	time. We will hear speakers in the room first
24	and then we will go to the conference call
25	participants and hear speakers on the phone.

# Page 4 Just some housekeeping, please make sure that 1 2 your phones are on mute. Also, if you need to 3 use the restrooms, they are out these doors to your left and then another left down the hall 5 there there's the men's and the lady's. are also vending machines there in case you 6 need water or refreshments. 7 8 I would like to express a special thank you to the West Palm Beach County Health 9 10 Department for allowing us to conduct our 11 little workshop here today. They did so on 12 relatively short notice and so we definitely 13 appreciate that. I know that the director, Dr. 14 Alonso was going to try to be here, but we also have the governor here as well on some Zika 15 16 related issues and they are upstairs. 17 understand if she's not able to make it down 18 here to say hello, but I know that she is very interested in what's happening with the trauma 19 20 community so I'm sure she would be here if she 21 could. 22 My name is Leah Colston, for the record, 23 that's L-E-A-H, C-O-L-S-T-O-N. I'm the bureau chief for emergency medical oversight at the 24

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Florida Department of Health in Tallahassee and

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1	I'll be serving as your moderator today. This
2	is the second in a series of three rule
3	workshops for these rules. The last one was
4	held on June 21st in Tallahassee. If you were
5	able to attend that rule workshop, you will
6	recall that we had indicated we would have
7	transcripts ready as soon as possible. The
8	transcripts unfortunately weren't ready in
9	time, but they will be ready on July 1st and so
10	just, you know, as a note for everybody who is
11	here and listening, we'll post those to our
12	trauma website. We will also send out to our
13	DL on both the EMS and the trauma side
14	notification with the link to the transcripts.
15	Of course, they may be in draft because we're
16	asking for a quick turnaround time, but the
17	reason I'm saying this is because we would like
18	for the trauma community and the EMS community
19	to make sure that they have time to review the
20	transcripts and the discussions that we are
21	having regarding these rules. These are we
22	are working on trying to develop an approach.
23	We've had a lot of issues with the trauma
24	rule trauma rules and so we'd like to kind
25	of move forward from that and get as much

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1	feedback as possible.
2	DR. ALONSO: Good morning.
3	MS. COLSTON: Oh, good morning. So she
4	made it. Would you like to I just said
5	thank you and I said all kinds of nice things,
6	so I'm sorry you missed it.
7	DR. ALONSO: Well, I'm going to say a few
8	nice things and then I've got to get out of
9	here. It's going to be a crazy day, folks.
10	I'm Dr. Alonso. I'm the director here at the
11	Department of Health. I know many of you. How
12	are you all doing this morning? I was planning
13	to spend the day with you until noon, but
14	unfortunately I've got the governor coming here
15	today. We're going to be talking about Zika
16	and funding and there's a few items that have
17	hit the news this morning, so it's going to be
18	a little bit crazy so I have to leave and go
19	take care of him. But at least I let you guys
20	keep this room.
21	MS. COLSTON: Yes, she was very kind.
22	DR. ALONSO: So I'm really looking forward
23	to what you're going to do. I have Chris.
24	Where's Chris? There's Chris. She'll be my
25	representative here today and she's been very

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1	in tune with what we're doing in terms of
2	trauma, and the birth reviews, and falls
3	especially for our seniors, and a lot of other
4	things. I know you're going to be talking the
5	rules and but it all ties in together. And
6	this is a great group. They're very involved
7	and lots of good folks here.
8	MS. COLSTON: Yes. Thank you very much.
9	We appreciate it.
10	DR. ALONSO: Thank you.
11	MS. COLSTON: So she made it after all.
12	Have fun today. Okay.
13	So, as I kind of mentioned, we're you
14	know, this is the second in a series of three.
15	We've had quite a bit of activity going on.
16	We're trying to improve some relationships
17	that, you know, quite frankly are not conducive
18	to us being able to move forward in a way that
19	will help us evolve our trauma system. We
20	acknowledge a lot of things. Our trauma
21	statutes and the system itself has not been
22	really evolved since, you know, 20 plus years,
23	maybe even 30, I don't know, it's going on that
24	I guess, so we'd like to kind of work on
25	getting together with the community in a

# Page 8 collaborative effort to try to make sure that 1 2 what we build is something that the community, 3 number one, consensus on because you guys are the boots on the ground. But then in addition 5 to that, we'd also like to make sure that whatever we develop is something that we've 6 developed in conjunction with the stakeholders 7 8 so that it's useful to you guys, it helps inform the State of Florida for things that we 9 10 need as far as data and all that sort of stuff. 11 I mean, you know, to be honest with you, all of 12 this stuff I think we're -- we're in a really 13 good place right now. The environment is so 14 ripe for some good change to happen. I think there's a lot of things that we can do. 15 Unfortunately we're trying to gather comments 16 17 in a rule promulgation environment, so that's 18 kind of restrictive, but what I would encourage you to do is to submit your comments. This is 19 20 why we're doing this. We're trying to get as 21 much feedback. We have no rule language and 22 that's kind of interesting. You know, I'm sure 23 everybody was kind of thinking: Huh, what's going on here, you know, they're going to try 24 25 to pull a fast one again. There are no

### Page 9 There are no -- there's no 1 predispositions. 2 rule language. There's nothing that we have 3 because why should we develop rule language in the absence of input from the stakeholders. 4 5 that's part of the reason that we're here is to try to get some feedback on what our idea is 6 and how we would like to look at approaching 7 8 this because we have an idea. Everybody always has ideas and so of course we have an idea and 9 10 we want to communicate that idea to you and 11 tell you what we're thinking. Now, from there 12 it's open season. You guys can say, hey, we 13 think that's a good idea with these caveats or 14 we think that idea sucks. What I would also encourage you to do is if you like the idea, 15 16 you think it's great, say so. If there is 17 somewhere that we need to look or improve, let us know that. 18 If you think it's a completely terrible idea, tell us why you think it's 19 20 terrible. Don't just tell us it's terrible 21 because we get that. If you think it's 22 terrible, we completely understand that. 23 we want to understand is how to fix what's terrible about it. We won't know how to go in 24 25 and correct what you think is wrong with it.

Page 10 I'm not saying that everybody's 1 recommendations, and everybody's proposals, and 2 3 everybody's thoughts are going to, you know, all -- everybody's going to be happy and once 4 5 this process is over, we're all going to walk away and be extremely happy. But the idea is 6 is that if you have the opportunity to present 7 8 it and discuss it amongst yourselves, then you understand if your idea isn't adopted for 9 10 whatever reason why because the community has 11 said: Well, you know, yeah, we get that; but 12 your peers are saying: This is why it won't 13 work. And there's a number of folks that are 14 discussing it. It's not just the state saying: We think this is good and this is what should 15 16 happen, and saying: Okay, guys, you know, go 17 forth and do whatever we tell you to do. 18 would encourage that. Be sure that you let us know, you know, okay, you have these thoughts. 19 20 And the thought may be so vague that it's not 21 bad or good, but, I mean, either way, I'd love 22 to hear it. That we've messed up in the past 23 and we know that. We want to fix that, but we also want to move forward. And we also want to 24 25 figure out how to best implement rules that

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1	will allow us to grow the trauma system the way
2	it needs to be grown.
3	So, let's see. I just want to make sure
4	I've covered everything. Hopefully you all
5	have signed in. There was a sign-in sheet
6	right outside the door here. If you're on the
7	phone, I would encourage you to email
8	joshua.sturms@flhealth.gov to let him know or
9	let us know that you are in attendance today.
10	We would like to be able to document the
11	attendance for the rule workshops and so please
12	make sure you email. There were sign-in sheets
13	outside the door also. So this is of course a
14	rule workshop, if you would like to provide
15	comment today, you will fill out that speaker
16	form and submit that so we can call on you to
17	speak. I think that's it.
18	So what I'd like to do is just kind of
19	talk to you about what the department's
20	position is. This is nothing new. The
21	environment today for trauma is very different
22	than what it was sometime ago back in the 90s.
23	We didn't have a lot of trauma centers and we
24	were just trying to get folks to be trauma
25	centers, come be a trauma center. Through the

	Page 12
1	years, you know, folks have worked on different
2	things. We worked on an allocation
3	methodology. We had the ACS tell us that was a
4	great thing and, you know because a lot of
5	states don't necessarily have that and
6	sometimes it's a free market system, they allow
7	folks to do whatever they want in another.
8	There's other different models out there and it
9	varies from state to state. Because of the
10	allocation methodology and all of the locality
11	involved, we've been in litigation for a long
12	time. It's not been so bad lately. We are in
13	litigation, but I think the litigation in
14	previous years kind of stymied our ability to
15	talk to our trauma community and get their
16	input. And, you know, I mean, I get it. You
17	know, we're all in a position where whatever we
18	say, we're legally bound and we may be grilled
19	for it. I've been there and I've done that,
20	you know. And so when we say things, even if
21	we have the best intentions, we can be sued
22	over it and that's just the nature of the
23	business. But I think moving forward, you
24	know, what we're doing this under rule
25	promulgation now so we're limited to how we do

### Page 13 Until we can get past the litigation, 1 2 it's going to make it very difficult for us to 3 do other things. And I'm not saying that that'll ever happen, but I think right now even 4 5 though we're in litigation, I will still pick up the phone and call a trauma program manager 6 or a trauma program manager can call me and 7 8 say: Hey, I need to know this. Am I afraid of being sued and possibly getting fired? Yes, of 9 10 course. But I just feel like I don't want to 11 shut the doors to what we're trying to do. 12 know, I know that I'm not a clinician and I'm 13 not that person that you can call for that 14 expertise, but certainly we can get that for you and try to be responsive to that. So, you 15 16 know, again, even with everything that's going 17 on, I want to make sure that we're still able 18 to talk to our trauma community and I would like for it not to be in this arena only. 19 20 know, we're working on a couple of things where 21 we're actually trying to pull together an 22 advisory council. We've heard, you know, over, 23 and over, and over again with the last few rule workshops we need an advisory council. 24 I agree 25 wholeheartedly and I'm working on it. You know

# Page 14 1 that with the state sometimes things happen a 2 little bit slow, so just know that we're 3 working on that because that is a critical piece to the evolution of trauma and to 5 bringing it to the state that we'd like it be By statute there's a limit to the number 6 of trauma centers in the state and that number 7 8 is 44 and that was developed some time ago by the legislature during a time when population 9 10 was a little different, you know, situation was 11 a little different, demographics and all that, 12 and we know that there's wide variability 13 between the panhandle and Pensacola and the 14 Keys. So a lot of things have changed and we haven't necessarily grown our trauma system to 15 change with the way the State of Florida ha 16 17 changed. We're burgeoning at 20 million plus 18 in population now, so it 44 the right number? We don't know. What we would like to convey is 19 20 that any legislative changes are going to be --21 we need to be in it for the marathon and not 22 for the sprint because that's a long process, 23 but we're willing to do that. The other part of that is we need to look 24 25 at our rules. Our rules currently kind of

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1	outline an allocation methodology where we
2	actually limit the number of trauma centers per
3	TSA. And so we have this statutory cap for the
4	state and then we've got an additional cap for
5	the rule. And our legal office is kind of
6	really starting to look at things and
7	questioning, okay, so are interpreting this
8	right; is this the right way to do this; if it
9	is right, you know, how do we look at the
10	allocation methodology; and how are we defining
11	need, you know, what is need defined by; and is
12	our allocation methodology something that we
13	actually need to review and look at.
14	We've gotten some guidance from the ACS
15	and what the ACS has outlined that we should do
16	and things that we should have. The ACS
17	produces guidelines. Most of you that are from
18	the trauma area and even outside of that know
19	the Orange Book and their guidelines for
20	patient triage and things that you should have
21	in your trauma system and that will most likely
22	change. As healthcare does, it changes rather
23	quickly and so we need to look at we proposed
24	in the past adopting the ACS Orange Book as our
25	trauma standards and we've heard kind of input

### Page 16 from both sides. You know, the ACS standards 1 2 or guidelines are not necessarily as good as 3 Florida standards. And, you know, there are some things that if we allowed the Orange Book 4 5 to be adopted, you know, it might weaken our trauma system because the educational for 6 nurses are a little different, you know, or 7 8 whatever the case might be, and then there's the financial burden that's implied within some 9 10 of those Orange Book standards as well. 11 there are a lot of things I think we can 12 consider. 13 You know, we've got this long history, 14 this long background. We have an opportunity now to look at some rules. Certainly this 15 16 isn't going to be the last set of rules that we 17 look at because when and if we can get to a 18 point where we can change these rules, and there are other rules that we'll need to look 19 20 at and change as well. And then hopefully 21 based on what we receive as feedback from you 22 guys, when we look at these changes to the 23 rules, and we've done this already at the state level, we realized that there are changes in 24 25 statute that will have to be made and so we

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1	would look closely at what that looks like as
2	well. You know, and we've kind of gotten
3	feedback from both ends, you know, change the
4	statute first and then change your rules and
5	different things and, you know, I wonder if
6	it's the chicken or the egg that comes first.
7	I think either way all of this discussion that
8	we're going to have is going to be beneficial
9	to us being able to make changes moving forward
10	whether it's rule statute or otherwise. So
11	again, I would just encourage you to come
12	forth, speak, be heard, have some solutions,
13	have some recommendations. We are certainly
14	collecting all of these. We have a court
15	reporter here today, so when you come up to the
16	microphone to speak, please state your name,
17	the organization that your with, and also spell
18	your name for the record so that we can get
19	this. And again, once these transcripts are
20	ready, we will post these as well to the trauma
21	website and we'll send out notification.
22	I'd like to welcome my panel here today,
23	Steve McCoy who is the EMS section
24	administrator, Joshua Sturms who is the data
25	section administrator, and then Karen Card who

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1	has been very intimately involved with
2	allocation methodology and trauma registry and
3	things of that nature. So this workshop is
4	intended to gain feedback from you. You know,
5	I know that you may have some questions and
6	we'll do our best to answer whatever questions
7	you may have if we can. But, you know, from my
8	perspective, we're kind of walking into this
9	with an open mind and not trying to have any
10	predispositions so that we can just hear what
11	folks have to say or hear your recommendations.
12	So any questions? Great. All right. Well, we
13	will go ahead and move forward then.
14	I've got three requests to speak. Any
15	online? Oh, one more. Okay. Thomas
16	Dibernardo.
17	MR. DIBERNARDO: Good morning. Thomas
18	Dibernardo, D-I-B-E-R-N-A-R-D-O, Sunrise Fire
19	Rescue and The Broward Fire Chiefs Association
20	I just have a few comments for consideration.
21	First, I applaud difficult meetings
22	because that's what makes Florida the best and
23	I appreciate that. Sometimes it's through
24	these tough times that we still rise above the
25	others. I also will concentrate on the trauma

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assessment, so I'm using this rule because it refers to the trauma assessment as the main topic of my comments here.

First, I applaud having some kind of assessment. I think that was challenging in itself to create an assessment so there's some methodology that folks could use. From an EMS perspective, I in my area am the deployment specialist. I model all vehicles where they go and how they go in the past and in predictive modeling, so my concerns centers around a couple of issues and that is the predictive I don't want to catch the trauma assessment report here or the formula catch you in a circle. If you were to change your allocation up or down, then I would say you would have to redeploy your model on the effects of that. So if you have, for example, a reduction of trauma centers, I would take all those EMS calls and redeploy them under the same formula. You would create a circle. for example, in Broward County and I could submit this, but it's -- I don't want to go into numbers here. For example, the effects of the Coral Springs zip code would increase by 18

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1	minutes now making it 39 minutes. For the
2	Miramar zip code, it would add 15 minutes, thus
3	making it 36 minutes. By the time you change
4	an allocation or reduction in Broward County
5	and then redeploy your formula, you would then
6	increase the allocation back to Broward County.
7	So I would like for you to take that in
8	consideration in your formulas. If you're
9	going to have a reduction or an addition,
10	redeploy the formula to see the effects.
11	Also another area that needed to be
12	considered during your formula and I'll submit
13	this also as long as Cheryl Harasi (phonetic)
14	gives me a replacements and that is the
15	locations. So, for example, in Broward County
16	our three trauma centers happen to be in the
17	zip code of the highest number of traumas,
18	trauma alerts. So therefore when you're doing
19	means and averages, that would be very
20	difficult because the response times for the
21	bulk of the call are going to be within a few
22	minutes, thus the outlying communities would
23	suffer an intermediate average. So, for
24	example, in the Pompano area for the North
25	Broward Hospital district there's 225 EMS

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1	trauma alerts just in that zip code. That
2	would have an untoward effect to the Coral
3	Springs 20 miles out that has 200 also. So as
4	you go further west in the area of Broward
5	County, the means and averages would have an
6	untoward effect on your formula. So I just ask
7	that when we make these formulas that we also
8	do some kind of predictive modeling because the
9	last thing we need you to do is come up with an
10	allocation of up or down, redeploy your formula
11	and have to change it again. So that is all I
12	have. Thank you.
13	MS. COLSTON: Thank you.
14	MR. DIBERNARDO: And I can submit these
15	too.
16	MS. COLSTON: Thank you. Next speaker is
17	Chief Donatto.
18	MR. DONATTO: Good morning. Thank you
19	guys very much for coming down here to South
20	Florida for these meetings. We appreciate it.
21	It's an awful long way for us to go to
22	Tallahassee, but so Darryl Donatto,
23	D-O-N-A-T-T-O, the Town of Palm Beach Fire
24	Rescue, also the Florida Fire Chiefs
25	Association.

# Page 22

1	You mentioned something earlier about the
2	EMS system or the system and what I really want
3	to make sure that we convey on behalf of the
4	Florida Fire Chiefs is that every decision that
5	you guys make at the state in Tallahassee with
6	all the wisdom of government you have an impact
7	on a system, you have an impact on my parents
8	who live in a little small community called
9	Palm Beach Gardens, you have an impact on
10	somebody's children. It impacts the entire
11	system. The pre-hospital component is a
12	critical part of the system. So as you
13	consider your things about lawsuits, and
14	legislation, and rules, all those things will
15	impact the system. They impact the operations
16	of every fire rescue agency in the southeast,
17	every fire rescue agency in the state and
18	ultimately that impacts lives. I know we've
19	entered into a new time. It's very
20	unfortunate. We have these mass attacks out
21	there, but they do surface some things. They
22	surfaced the need for us to be prepared and for
23	us to have adequate capacity and build that
24	capacity in. Most of what I see in these
25	reports is fighting over who gets to have a

# Page 23 trauma center in what area and how many you 1 2 want and we want you to be cognoscente of the 3 impact of those decisions as you consider them. In your prior recommendations, in your 5 recommendation for a single trauma center within Palm Beach County where we currently 6 have two and, you know, those two systems 7 8 provide us with capacity to do whatever goes Those two centers, they provide us with 9 10 the capacity for whatever goes on and I just I 11 fear that, you know, some decision making that 12 takes place in Tallahassee far removed from the 13 people down in Palm Beach County is going to 14 have a negative impact on my parents, my children, my friends, and the other people in 15 this area. You know, in my mind we have an 16 17 area like Palm Beach County and I can't speak 18 for the entire state, but an area like Palm Beach County where we have what I would 19 20 consider one of the best trauma systems available, it's funded locally, it has decision 21 22 makers that live in this community, it's 23 evaluated continuously by very bright minds who care about people, but who also live in this 24 25 community, they're invested, they have family

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1	that lives in this community, and they care
2	about these outcomes because ultimately they
3	care about the impact those things have on
4	their family, down to that level, and what I
5	don't want to see is the state dictating the
6	level of expectation we should be able to have
7	within Palm Beach County. And I'm sure that
8	that's the same for Broward and Dade and other
9	counties. So I'd urge you to consider allowing
10	local areas to establish their own levels of
11	expectation, especially where they're willing
12	to fund and to kindest words possible, stay out
13	of it down here. The state has great
14	intentions, but they don't always come out so
15	well for the folks that live in a particular
16	area. You can't dictate the same thing for the
17	panhandle as you can for a dense area like the
18	southeast.
19	I appreciate you listening to what I've
20	got to say. And when you get some more
21	concrete plans, get something in writing. I'm
22	sure we'll be back to talk more about that.
23	Thank you.
24	MS. COLSTON: Great. Thank you. Kathy
25	Holzer.

Page 25 Katherine Holzer. 1 MS. HOLZER: Holzer is 2 H-O-L-Z-E-R. Safety Net Hospital Alliance of 3 Florida. The Safety Net Hospital Alliance is composed of membership includes seven level one 4 5 trauma centers, six level two, and the two free standing pediatric trauma centers. First, we'd 6 like to thank the department for taking a more 7 8 collaborative approach. We look forward to a day where we have an advisory council and we 9 10 look forward to continuing to work on these 11 rules. We're particularly appreciative that 12 you chose to do regional meetings. It is not 13 always possible for our trauma centers or the 14 EMS folks to make it to Tallahassee and this is most appreciated. I will not repeat my 15 16 comments from the prior meeting, but really as 17 we begun to work on preparing written 18 recommendations, I have a series of questions which you may or may not be able to answer 19 20 today. 21 You've sort of outlined some of your 22 reasoning around the revisions to or thought 23 process of looking at revising 64J-2.010, the allocation rule. As it relates to trauma 24 25 registry rule, the application, the extension,

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1	and the site are there similar drivers for
2	the department around what revisions they
3	believe should be made or is this just part of
4	a process of annually reviewing these rules and
5	looking at updates?
6	MS. COLSTON: From my perspective, I don't
7	think this has anything to do with our annual
8	review. I think this is something that based
9	on a lot of things that have happened even in
10	the last six months have just kind of caused
11	our executive leadership to kind of sit back
12	and say: Hey, program, we need to kind of look
13	at this and look at how we can fix things. I
14	think one of the biggest drivers for the
15	Department of Health in some changes is the
16	desire of our state's general to really try to
17	fix some of our relationship issues that we've
18	had in the past. That sounds bad. I sound
19	like I'm on Oprah, but we you know, it kind
20	of goes back to what I said before and even to
21	what Chief Donatto kind of mentioned, you know,
22	the state has done some things and we've kind
23	of pushed some things down with the best of
24	intentions I'm pretty sure, but, you know, now
25	it's kind of time to sit back and we're looking

### Page 27 at the community feedback perspective, you 1 2 And not to say that anything was done 3 without community feedback in the past. that there were a lot of workshops and a lot of 5 activities that went into building some of the existing rules, but I think for a couple of 6 years we've kind of gotten away from that, so. 7 8 And I think that things have changed. So to me it's more than one thing. It's kind of a 9 10 complex situation where we're just here now. 11 It's time for us to start looking outside the 12 box and thinking outside the box as to what we 13 need to do and how we need to proceed, you 14 know, because sometimes you get so stuck on this is the way, and we've got these rules, 15 and, you know, this is -- it's been -- we've 16 17 got all this stuff that exists, but change is 18 hard, you know, and we already know. I mean, from a state perspective, you know, we go left 19 20 and, you know, litigation, right, litigation, 21 you know, so there's -- it's one of those 22 things where you want to try to work with the 23 community and you want to think about the best way to do that and so I think there are number 24 25 of things that have gotten us to where we are

Page 28 1 now. 2 MS. HOLZER: And then just a general 3 comment. Well, we have certainly repetitively talked about the need for transparency and inclusioness [SIC] around the allocation rule. 5 We believe that is equally true as it relates 6 to all the other rules. You know, we would 7 8 like to see a more transparent process, a 9 clearer approach to how you evaluate trauma 10 applications, you know, what role the trauma 11 agencies might play in that process, transparency with posting that scoring on your 12 13 website as it relates to site visits. 14 the more transparency you can put around the process, I think the closer we get to returning 15 to the day when we all worked collaboratively 16 17 and get beyond some of the issues. 18 And again, just to echo what the first speaker said, the assessment really does need 19 20 to be an assessment of the trauma system and of 21 the trauma system within a TSA because every 22 TSA is vastly different. You know, what we can 23 do in TSA-1 does not mirror what we can do in to say TSA-19. EMS, fire rescue have to be our 24 25 partners in that process and so we look forward

	Page 29
1	to providing the department with comments and
2	we appreciate your taking the time to come to
3	South Florida.
4	MS. COLSTON: Thank you. Final speaker
5	request, Cheryl Rashkin.
6	MS. RASHKIN: Good morning, all. My name
7	is Cheryl, C-H-E-R-Y-L, Rashkin, R-A-S-H-K-I-N.
8	I am the manager of the Broward County Trauma
9	Agency which is a part of the office of medical
10	examiner and trauma services in Broward County.
11	I've been down there since the agency was
12	established working in other arenas and working
13	very closely with all hospitals through
14	emergency management courses in the
15	affiliations and also with the EMS providers.
16	They sort of trained me down in Broward County
17	because they do things a little bit differently
18	from when I came from Palm Beach County. But I
19	have roots in both and one of those major roots
20	is the way trauma centers are allocated in a
21	certain area. The formula, yes, is outdated.
22	It needs to be addressed and revised. And to
23	follow-up to Kathy's comments, we have to look
24	at it independently for each one of the region
25	because we are so different. What's good here

# Page 30 in Palm Beach County with 2 trauma centers that 1 2 has worked for over 20 years -- I'm sorry --3 almost 30 years is a little bit different than it is in Broward County because we have three. 5 I could not imagine either one of those communities with less than what they have now. 6 And I know as time goes on and the population 7 8 increases within those given areas, both of those counties are very lucky because they do 9 10 have a trauma agency in place and they both 11 work strongly with not only the trauma centers and the EMS providers, but all acute care 12 13 facilities and that's the key component. all work as a team. This coming week our 14 county is in the process of reviewing it's 15 16 trauma transport protocols. Every emergency 17 medical director for every acute care facility, 18 plus the nursing managers for those same emergency departments, along with all EMS 19 20 providers in the community, any other interested party in the community, along with 21 22 the trauma centers are invited to a workshop to 23 look at the current TTPs and see if they need to be updated, strengthened, and what can we do 24 25 to facilitate the needs of our residents and

	Page 31
1	visitors in Broward County to get them to a
2	faster approach into a trauma center. That
3	doesn't mean our acute care facilities can't
4	handle the job because we rely on them also.
5	Without those acute care facilities in the
6	outlying areas, say here in Palm Beach County,
7	is way out in Canal Point or Pahokee, in
8	Broward it's way out on Alligator Alley. We
9	also help service the Seminole Tribe who are
10	great working partners with our community. So
11	they facilitate the needs of the EMS crews and
12	save the lives of a patient and airlifting to
13	the closes facility if air can't come all the
14	way west. So those are components that we rely
15	on, we look at.
16	Chief Dibernardo brought up various
17	statistics based on our county and our county's
18	needs and they're true to force. I rely on the
19	Fire Chiefs Association and a program they
20	garnered through an EMS grant many years ago
21	deployment status of all of their units, so
22	that helps facilitate the needs in our
23	community to know if we have the right units in
24	the right location and the right facilities in
25	the right location because not only is it used

### Page 32 for their trauma side of the house, it's also 1 2 used for the stroke, and the cardiac, and 3 pediatric, and I can go down the list based on what the capabilities of our acute care facilities are which are extensive. So when 5 you look at our system of trauma, you have to 6 look at all the components that comprise 7 8 It's not just that initial injury and an initial golden hour. That is critical, but 9 10 you have to look at all the other components 11 that go into place such as the families. 12 are you going to be doing with families of 13 these trauma patients because it continues once 14 they leave the facility into the rehab. So you have to look at this as a system wide component 15 and not just what is good for the state 16 17 overall. Check your systems. The idea of 18 going to regionalized trauma agencies, it's a I don't think it'll work too 19 nice thought. 20 well down here in the south area because we are 21 such an urban community. You have three large 22 communities that have 7, 9 -- 9 trauma centers between all of us? Yes. So we have quite a 23 So are you going to make one entity in 24 25 charge of all of those? Oh, my gracious.

### Page 33 only have three to work with plus 16 acute care 1 2 facilities. I don't see that group being able 3 to really function well. They might be able to give some minor insight and guidance, but when 5 it comes to the hospital community, they're a family and they stay within their own families 6 and that means the community in which they are 7 8 based. So we all work as a team. When you're going through and you're looking at your 9 10 approval process for trauma centers, those of 11 us that are lucky enough to have trauma 12 agencies, I'm sorry, less than a month to 13 review a hospital's application and getting my 14 trauma advisory committee together in less than a month's time to look at that, review all the 15 qualifications, it's a bit tight, so you may 16 17 want to include that in the thoughts also and 18 giving that process a little bit more time. The facilities have a little bit of time in 19 20 garnering the information and gathering the 21 information that they need to make the 22 application. I might ask that in that process 23 they involve the community, they talk to their community partners in putting together the 24 25 The hospitals already do a great job. data.

	Page 34
1	There's no doubt about it. And they all know
2	hot to write an application form. But they
3	need to make sure they've got the community
4	buy-in as they're going forward. As several
5	did just in the Miami-Dade area just recently.
6	So that's what you need to do is you need to
7	get that buy-in so it's all community, it's all
8	a system and you have to work together. So
9	that's the component. If you take a look at
10	012, give the trauma agencies in the community
11	a little bit more time to review the
12	application process. On 2010, I'll back up
13	Chief Dibernardo and Donatto, you have to go on
14	what's good for that community. Population is
15	wonderful, but EMS and their response times and
16	the needs of community outweigh those
17	components. Thank you.
18	MS. COLSTON: Thank you. So we have not
19	received any requests to speak via the
20	telephone. Are there any other requests to
21	speak?
22	DR. BORREGO: Good morning.
23	MS. COLSTON: Good morning.
24	DR. BORREGO: Robert Borrego. I'm the
25	trauma medical director at West Palm Hospital.

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1	THE COURT REPORTER: Doctor, can you spell
2	your name for me? I'm sorry.
3	DR. BORREGO: Robert Borrego,
4	B-O-R-R-E-G-O. I've been the medical director,
5	to correct the record, for 25 years and that
6	has been the length that we've had a trauma
7	system in Palm Beach County. I've been
8	fortunate, in fact, you will see that I'm one
9	of the very few handful of trauma medical
10	director that has been in 1 center for 25
11	years. The reason for that is, number 1, that
12	I started and I have seen a program grow from
13	the beginning in 1991 with 2 level 2 trauma
14	centers, but we have both outgrown to being 2
15	level 1 trauma centers. We have been able to
16	do that because we have a strong working
17	relationship between the two centers, the EMS
18	system, and the trauma agency. And I could
19	vouch for you right now that without that in
20	place, there is no way that I would be in one
21	center for 25 years. It takes a long time for
22	a trauma center to mature and become a level 1
23	trauma center to have the experience, the
24	capabilities, and the finesse to be able to
25	work with a community, the EMS system takes

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twenty years at least.

To reference something that Chief Donatto said and to echo him and to reflect back on what happened recently in Orlando, the only way that a place like Palm Beach County, our set up, our structure, our infrastructure to be able to handle something like that will be only through the collaborative work between the two trauma centers, St. Mary's and Delray Medical Centers. Without these -- without all our collaboration and our work, we would never be able to handle something like that because we are not an institution where there is a large medical center, a university, or a large stationary center. We do see 3,000 -- between the two trauma centers. We have a very high And we have in the past handled ISS score. mass casualties. And it is -- what I would propose is to have further collaboration between EMS and the agency, the trauma centers, to be able to set up a system where we will be able to handle a catastrophe such as the one in Orlando by the appropriate triage to the 2 centers that would be able to handle that, being said from the experience, the

	Page 37
1	capabilities, and the growth that has taken
2	over 25 years to become 2 level 1 trauma
3	centers for Palm Beach County.
4	And I just like to make these statements
5	and I hope that it's this is taken into
6	consideration with any changes made in how Palm
7	Beach County handles its trauma patients, and
8	their families, and all those that are
9	concerned. Thank you.
10	MS. COLSTON: Thank you. Next speaker,
11	Chief Dyal.
12	MR. DYAL: Good morning. David Dyal,
13	D-Y-A-L. Welcome to sunny South Florida. Nice
14	and warm. I've got a couple of comments to
15	make and primarily it's on the TTPs, the trauma
16	transport protocols.
17	We have EMS medical directors who
18	establish our protocols throughout our industry
19	and that's by law they ware the ones who
20	develop the TTPs as well as our treatment
21	protocols. And I know that the rule requires
22	us to send our TTPs up to Tallahassee for
23	approval and I really don't think that that's
24	appropriate. Whatever our medical directors in
25	cooperation with our local hospitals and trauma

	Page 38
1	centers, whatever they decide to do should
2	be I don't mind putting, you know, file with
3	the state if that's what you want, but as far
4	as having an approval process, I think that's
5	invalid.
6	The second part of that is, and I'll air
7	some dirty laundry here, we had a case in
8	Martin County that the providers were sued
9	because we took a patient who met all the
10	trauma transport protocol protocol scores to
11	take him to a trauma center. We were sued and
12	the plaintiff won the suit because we didn't
13	take him to the closest hospital. So if we're
14	going to have TTPs that the state approves, or
15	puts them on file, or whatever, what's the
16	point if I don't have some kind of protection
17	from lawsuit because we followed our TTPs and
18	did not go to the local non-trauma center and
19	there's no direction to the legal system in
20	which to tell them that we are obligated to do
21	so? So if you're going to go back and revisit
22	all this, something has to be done to direct
23	the legal system to give us some type of
24	immunity if we're following protocol. That's
25	the primary thing that I wanted to talk about

Page 39 was the trauma transport protocols. 1 2 And just in general. I don't have a dog 3 in the hunt on trauma centers. We are blessed to be able to be between a couple very good 5 ones, so we fly north and south and anywhere they want -- they need to go. 6 In fact, we even -- we fly directly to burn centers and 7 8 bypass our local trauma centers if the patient is significantly burnt. But it seems to me 9 10 that the state ought to be in the business of 11 establishing standards. And then if a hospital 12 meets those standards and the market will drive 13 it, then so be it. Let the hospitals work 14 their markets and sink or swim, but they need to meet your standards. So set some standards, 15 set standards for EMS, set standards for the 16 17 hospital, whoever, and then let the market 18 drive it. That's the end of my comments. Thank you. 19 20 MS. COLSTON: Thank you. Are there any 21 other comments or requests to speak that we 22 have not gotten from the audience? 23 I got an email to ask to MR. STURMS: spell my name again. If they're getting 24 25 rejected, maybe it's for having the wrong

	Page 40
1	email.
2	MS. COLSTON: Okay. On the phone, if you
3	want to submit a request to speak, the email
4	address is:
5	joshua, J-O-S-H-U-A, .sturms, S-T-U-R-M-S, @flhealt
6	h.gov.
7	So perhaps we can take a break for about 7
8	minutes until 10:00 o'clock to give some folks
9	that are one the phone time to submit their
10	requests if they'd like to speak.
11	(Thereupon there was a brief
12	recess and the proceedings
13	continued as follows:)
14	MS. COLSTON: Okay. Thank you. So we are
15	doing one last final check of the email to see
16	if we've gotten any written comments and so I'm
17	going to give Josh just a second. But while he
18	keeps checking on that, I just wanted to make
19	sure we didn't have any from attendees here?
20	Okay.
21	So one of the things, you know, as we let
22	Josh kind of look for what he's looking for,
23	one of the things that I just wanted to say is
24	we've gotten some interesting recommendations
25	today. You know, a lot of folks have some

#### Page 41 You know, and I'm not the 1 different ideas. 2 expert on this stuff, you guys are, so I'm glad 3 we're getting these recommendations. I would just encourage you, I know that some folks may 4 5 not want to kind of go into a lot of detail about what they think. You know, we all hope 6 that this is a safe environment where we can 7 talk about things that we want to talk about 8 and get our ideas out there, at least that's 9 what I'd like to be able to do. I don't think 10 11 that I can do that on my own. I think you guys 12 are the ones with the ideas. But when I talk 13 about all the great recommendations that we've 14 gotten today, sometimes it is a recommendation. We think that you should kind of look at 15 16 variability and standards or, you know, have a 17 minimum standard; I'll just use this one as an 18 example: Have a minimum standard and use it as a quideline. Everybody meets, you know, A, B, 19 20 and C and then if you want to be a little 21 better and add in D, E, and F, all the way down 22 to Z, then you need to have the latitude to be able to do that. You know, and I think that's 23 an interesting concept. I think that's 24 25 something that's good to consider. You know,

## Page 42 all things considered with making sure that 1 2 we're still meeting any statutes or regulatory 3 requirements or anything like that. So to that end, we will be accepting written comments for 5 these workshops, even the one that we held on the 11th -- 21st. I'm sorry. I'm thinking 6 about the one in the future. We'll be 7 8 accepting written comments all the way through July 21st, so that's about two weeks after the 9 10 very last workshop. So as you submit your 11 comments, especially for those folks who have 12 made recommendations and, you know, quite 13 frankly very interesting recommendations. 14 know, I don't want to call anybody out in this arena or do anything to make you give more than 15 what you're willing to, but your written 16 17 comments, I would encourage you to comment, 18 expand on what those recommendations are a little bit so that we can understand. Because 19 20 for me a recommendation is very valuable as 21 long as I understand the mechanics behind it, 22 you know, then we can actually develop 23 something moving forward and champion those things that we're looking for, communicate it 24 25 better in a venue like this where there's, you

## Page 43 know, something we're going to give to an 1 2 advisory council for consideration, or 3 something that we discuss and use as the justification for why we're going to propose a 5 rule that we're going to propose. So I would encourage anybody who is, you know, listening, 6 or making recommendations, or anything of that 7 8 nature, if you have comments about it, it's what I said before, but expand on what you're 9 10 recommending. Tell us how you would do that. 11 If it were a perfect world and this were your 12 pie in the sky with the unicorns and balloons 13 floating around, tell us how you would do what 14 you're proposing to do. How would you do what 15 you're recommending because that is going to be where we can find the most value in what we're 16 17 getting here today is to see what you -- what 18 the actual thought processes are behind the 19 recommendations. 20 So, Josh, did I fill up enough, blow 21 enough hot air to see if we can get these 22 things printed out? It wasn't really hot air. 23 That's a true statement. I really do want that I mean, so hopefully you guys will 24 though. 25 think about it. I don't care if you submit a

	Page 44
1	book. Just zip it, PDF it, zip it and send it
2	on and we will look at that because I think
3	that's going to be really valuable stuff.
4	MR. STURMS: We're going to try an
5	alternative method to get my email up.
6	MS. COLSTON: So we're having a little bit
7	of technical difficulties. If we un-mute, can
8	we just kind of
9	MR. STURMS: They can un-mute themself
10	get on presentation.
11	MS. COLSTON: Okay. So on the phone,
12	we're having some technical difficulties which
13	always seems to plague us during trauma rule
14	stuff. I don't know why. So if there were any
15	requests to speak that you submitted, we're
16	having some trouble pulling that off the email,
17	but if you'd like to star six to un-mute right
18	now and we'll just try to take your comments in
19	order. Star six to un-mute your line if you're
20	a participant on the conference call. Okay.
21	Hearing no takers. I'm sorry to make you guys
22	wait. I just don't want to miss out if
23	somebody's actually submitted something. Star
24	six to un-mute on the line.
25	So July 21st is the deadline to submit

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1	written comments. July 1st which is Friday we
2	will have the transcript from the June 21st
3	my dates are just gone June 21st workshop
4	that was held in Tallahassee. July 11th we are
5	having the third workshop. It will be held in
6	Orlando the day before the EMS Advisory Council
7	meeting, so hope to see everybody there.
8	MS. RASHKIN: Can you change the time to
9	that meeting to 9:30 because traveling to that
10	location in Orlando is a little difficult
11	during rush hour?
12	<b>MS. COLSTON:</b> 9:30?
13	MS. RASHKIN: Yes.
14	MS. COLSTON: It's already been noticed
15	MS. RASHKIN: noticed it, but.
16	MS. COLSTON: Yeah, it's already been
17	noticed so
18	MS. RASHKIN: Just to let you know that
19	that area is really bad.
20	MS. COLSTON: Okay. We'll delay as long
21	as possible, but, yeah.
22	MR. STURMS: There was one comment that
23	was sent in.
24	MS. COLSTON: Was it a request to speak or
25	just a comment?

	Page 46
1	MR. STURMS: It was just a comment.
2	MS. COLSTON: Okay. Do you want to read
3	it?
4	MR. STURMS: Sure. The comment is from
5	Dr. Malvezzi from the Nicklaus Children's
6	Trauma Hospital. His comment is: In the
7	current apportionment of trauma centers from
8	Miami-Dade, only the adult trauma centers are
9	counted. Is the pediatric trauma center to be
10	evaluated aside from the adult centers?
11	There's an additional question that says: If
12	the number of trauma centers is reduced, is
13	Nicklaus Children's, previously Miami
14	Children's Center, going to be sacrificed
15	despite the known advantage to children of
16	being taken care of in a dedicated stand alone
17	pediatric hospital?
18	MR. MCCOY: And basically it's a question
19	from Nicklaus Children's Hospital related to
20	pediatric centers and how they're going to be
21	apportioned in allocation. I think going back
22	to what Leah said earlier is is there's no
23	predisposed verbiage here. I don't imagine us
24	just in a final rule forgetting about trauma
25	centers. I think that's absurd myself. But

	Page 47
1	there is no predisposed language to do that.
2	There is no formula change or anything that
3	represents that at this time and that's what
4	we're trying to get feedback. And obviously
5	from comments submitted like this, it's evident
6	that we need do a better job of pediatric
7	hospitals, especially those two stand alones.
8	That's noted and we thank you for your
9	comments, doc.
10	MS. COLSTON: Okay. So if there are no
11	other comments either by phone or in the room,
12	we will conclude this workshop. Again, written
13	comments please, especially expanding on those
14	recommendations that we brought forward today,
15	that'd be great. I'm always available by
16	telephone, so if you shoot me an email, I will
17	be happy to return your call if you have any
18	questions or I can help in any way. Thank you
19	for your attendance and maybe we'll see you on
20	July 11th.
21	(This concludes the Department
22	of Health's Rule Development
23	Workshop)
24	
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                        TRANSCRIPT CERTIFICATE
 2
 3
        STATE OF FLORIDA
 5
        COUNTY OF WEST PALM BEACH )
 6
             I, JESICA GUTIERREZ, Reporter, certify that
 7
        I was authorized to and did digitally
 8
 9
        report the foregoing proceedings and that the
10
        transcript is a true and complete record of my
11
        digital notes.
12
        DATED this 12th day of July,
13
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16
        JEŚICA MARIA GARCIA GUTIERREZ, REPORTER
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     Notary Public - State of Florida
     Commission No.: FF972182
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     Expires: March 16, 2020
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