



## Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council June 2023

### Nero's Law Practical Training Sessions

The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC) in partnership with Western Mass EMS (WMEMS) is hosting multiple training sessions that fulfill the practical training portion of Chapter 23 of the Acts of 2022 – commonly known as Nero's Law. Sessions will be held in each of the four counties of western Massachusetts.

The first trainings sessions will be conducted on **Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at Berkshire Community College**. Four sessions, each 90 minutes in length, will be held on this day. Sessions will be held at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm (noon) and 2:00pm. Sessions in the other counties will be announced in the coming weeks. The training is free. Registration is required. Complete the form below.

Per Nero's Law, ambulance services in Massachusetts are required to assess, treat and transport police K9s injured in the line of duty. All certified EMTs (at all levels) must complete a training course of a minimum of 3 hours (1.5 hours didactic, .5 hours practical).

**The training is free. Registration is required.**

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

### Risk Based Battery Response Training

Lithium-Ion and other based batteries are becoming ubiquitous in everyday life, from batteries for small hand tools, to vehicles and large, wall mounted batteries for residential and commercial solar systems and more. Over-charged hand-tool lithium batteries are causing residential fires and presenting other challenges. Batteries can also be used by terrorists and extremists as part of IEDs and other explosives and corrosive-base attacks.

Battery technology is rapidly changing, challenging first responders in maintaining awareness of the potential hazards when responding to battery related emergencies. This 4-hour training provides first responder with necessary awareness related to battery incidents and provides key information for first responders who may encounter battery-based hazards as part of everyday response.

Four sessions of this 4-hour training will be held. One in each county at the following times and locations.

Wednesday, July 12, 2023. 12pm Noon to 4:00pm  
Southwick Fire Department

Wednesday, July 12, 2023. 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
South Deerfield Fire Department

Thursday, July 13, 2023, 12p noon to 4:00pm  
Courtyard Marriott, Hadley, MA

Thursday, July 13, 2023, 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
Great Barrington Fire Department

The training is free. Registration is required.

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

## Western Mass Tech Rescue Team

WRHSAC continues to support the Western Mass Tech Rescue Team as they enhance their rescue skills and capacity. [This recent coverage](#) from channel 40 in Springfield highlights the team's recent training. WRHSAC's to WMTRT and other specialty response teams in the region strengthens response and improves safety for responders and everyone they serve.

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues, departments and discipline associations

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Western Region Homeland  
Security Advisory Council



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