

Survey: EMS in America's Most Populous 100 Cities





James O. Page Publisher and Editor-in-Chief

> Keith Griffiths Managing Editor

Betty Scalice Associate Editor

Jan Schwettman Contributing Editor

Thom Dick Contributing Editor

Jane Ann Seymour Assistant to the Publisher

Mary Jane Preiser Advertising Coordinator Maria Hidalgo

Circulation Manager

Design Consultant

Joan Whitcombe Graphic Artist

Executive and Advertising Offices P.O. Box 152 Morristown, NJ 07960 201/766-7937

> Editorial Offices P.O. Box 1026 Solana Beach, CA 92075 714/942-5148

jems, a Journal of Emergency Medical Services, is published monthly by Jems Publishing Co., P.O. Box 152, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Subscription Information: Send \$12.40 for one year (12 issues), \$22.00 for two years (24 issues), or \$30.00 for three years (36 issues) to P.O. Box 152-M, Morristown, NJ 07960. Add \$10.00 per year for mailings outside the U.S. and Canada. Add \$5.00 per year for Canadian mailings. Financial or other discounts, services or inducements may be offered periodically to encourage subscriptions or resubscriptions. Change of address notices should include both old and new addresses and zip codes. CANADA—jems is distributed in Canada by Emergency Care Ontario, P.O. Box 604, Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 6V5; (416) 357-4825.

Advertising Information: Rates are available upon request. Contact Mary Jane Preiser, advertising coordinator, at 201/766-7937; P.O. Box 152, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Editorial Information: Manuscripts, letters and queries should be directed to Keith Griffiths, managing editor, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075; 714/942-5148.

Copyright 1981 Jems Publishing Co., Inc. No material can be reproduced without the express permission of the publisher; **ISSN** 0197-2510. Controlled circulation postage paid at San Fernando, California.

Postmaster—Return Form 3579 to P.O. Box 152, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Cover photo by Ed Kessler.

CONTENTS

APRIL 1981 VOL. 6 No. 4

FEATURES

28 Survey: EMS in America's Most Populous 100 Cities *jems* takes a statistical look at the profile of EMS in America's major cities—*staff report*

36 Seven Cities

Numbers are fine in explaining some things, but each city has its own unique tale of how its EMS came to be. We've selected at random seven cities to profile in more detail—*staff report*

39 Lightning Strikes Twice:

An Inside Look at the Personal Side of Disaster The city of Las Vegas suffers its second major hotel fire in four months—*jems* was there and reports a different side of the rescue effort—*staff report*

46 The Physician Medical Director: Guidelines for Selection

The role of the physician advisor is an important one, and the candidate needs to be carefully considered—by E. Michael Latessa

DEPARTMENTS

- 5 Editorial—Emergicenters—Good or Bad?
- 6 Letters
- 10 Inside EMS
 - 10 Washington Report by Jim Malone
 - **11 Around the Nation** by Betty Scalice
 - 18 Calendar
- 20 Tricks of the Trade by Thom Dick-Don't Go in There!
- 24 EMS Workshop—Patient Consent
- 45 Index to Advertisers
- 48 Clinical Review by Michael Antoline—Child Abuse
- 51 New Product Guide
- 54 The Publisher's Page—How the Little Guys Did It