



AGENDA
Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)
Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Task Force (PHWBTF)
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Tuesday, March 10, 2026
1:00 PM

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Austin
6505 N Interstate 35
Austin, Texas 78752

This meeting will be conducted live and virtually through Zoom. Virtual meeting links are posted to the GETAC webpage at www.dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems/governors-ems-trauma-advisory-council.

Meeting Notice: The use of artificial intelligence (AI) bots is prohibited in this meeting. In accordance with HHS policy, the use of Artificial Intelligence, also known as "AI" Notetakers, is expressly prohibited. Producers will not admit a 'bot' or other autonomous agent into the meeting. If a 'bot' should inadvertently gain entrance, it will be removed from the meeting by one of our producers.

Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Task Force (PHWBTF) Chair: Eric Epley, CEM, GETAC Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee Chair
DSHS: Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joe Schmider, Texas State EMS Director

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Reading of the GETAC vision and mission statements
4. GETAC Vision: *A unified, comprehensive, and effective Emergency Healthcare System.*
GETAC Mission: *To promote, develop, and advance an accountable, patient-centered Trauma and Emergency Healthcare System.*
5. Welcome and introductions – Eric Epley
 - a. Questions from the last meeting
6. GETAC Update: Alan Tyroch, MD, Chair; Ryan Matthews, LP, Vice-chair
7. DSHS Update: Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joe Schmider, State EMS Director
8. Old Business
 - a. PHWBTF – Planning for the PHWB pilot program

- b. PHWBTF – Tasks
 - c. Overview of lessons gained from Whole Blood Summit
9. New business
- a. Texas Whole Blood pilot deployment processes
 - b. Liquid plasma
 - c. Spray-dried plasma (SDP) discussions
 - d. Walking blood banks
 - e. Results from the Blood Provider Survey
 - f. Financial barriers for blood centers
 - g. Other barriers
 - h. Alternative collection processes
10. Announcements
- a. 2026 PHWBTF Meeting Schedule
11. Task Force action items
12. Action items/update for GETAC
- a. PHWB Public Education PowerPoint
 - b. PHWB Task Force recommendations to GETAC for possible action
13. Adjourn

Public Comment: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) welcomes public comments pertaining to topics related to Emergency Health Care. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this process by providing written public comments to DSHS by emailing deidra.lee@dshs.texas.gov no later than 5:00 PM, March 6, 2026. Please include your name and either the organization you are representing or that you are speaking as a private citizen. Written comments are limited to three minutes and will be read during the meeting for consideration by the Council. The request must contain your name, your direct phone number, and the name of the organization you represent or indicate that you are speaking as a private citizen.

Public comment is limited to three minutes. Speakers must state their name, affiliation, and on whose behalf they are speaking. Public members who are using handouts are asked to provide an electronic copy in accessible PDF format that will be distributed by DSHS staff to Council members, state staff, and the public. Handouts are limited to two pages of documentation (paper size: 8.5" by 11", one side only). Handouts must be emailed to DSHS by 5:00 PM, March 6, 2026, and include the name of the person commenting.

Note: These procedures may be revised at the discretion of DSHS.

Contact: Questions regarding agenda items, content, or meeting arrangements should be directed to Jorie Klein, DSHS, at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov. People with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting and require auxiliary aids or services should contact Jorie Klein at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov at least 72 hours before the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.