

To: Scott (Skip) Randall, Director  
Creek Nation EMS

Subject: May 24, 2009 transport incident

The following is a recounting of the incident involving Oklahoma State Trooper Martin, badge number 606. My partner and I, Paul Franks (hereafter referred to as "partner") had responded to a call in Boley Oklahoma. We were en route to Prague hospital. I was riding in the patient compartment seated in the captain's chair. As were passing through the town of Paden I noticed a state patrol car approaching from the rear at a very high rate of speed. The cruiser was traveling with the emergency lights only; I did not hear the sound of a siren. When the vehicle was approximately three feet from the ambulance's rear bumper, I called out to my partner and told him to pull to the side because there was a State Trooper behind us.

Several important points should be noted at this juncture:

- My partner had a vehicle immediately in front of him upon which his attention was focused
- The patrol car approached at such a high rate of speed, and without any audible devices activated, that he (the trooper) was only a few feet from the rear of our unit before my driver would have made his normal visual cycle (left mirror-front-right mirror)
- Citizens are always advised to stay well back of an ambulance because due to the box-shaped design, it is impossible for the driver to observe a vehicle traveling two to three feet behind one of the units

At my instruction my partner pulled partially onto the shoulder giving the trooper ample room to safely pass us. As the trooper passed us at a high rate of speed, he came over our radio with a statement to the effect that "you should consider checking you rearview mirrors". I was very surprised at this unprofessional gesture broadcasted over an emergency frequency. I asked my partner if he saw the cruiser's number; his response was no.

After we had traveled approximately three blocks, from my vantage point facing the rear, I noticed a patrol car making a left turn onto the main road from one of the side streets. The cruiser entered the main road at a very high rate of speed. In doing so, he cut directly in front of a car driven by one of the family members who was following us to the hospital. This action caused the afore-referenced vehicle to swerve partially onto the dirt shoulder (according to driver of the vehicle). This time the cruiser was running the emergency lights and siren. I informed my partner that another patrol car was approaching us from the rear. As my partner was pulling onto the shoulder, the cruiser came along side our unit and gestured for my driver to pull over. When the officer came to a complete stop behind the ambulance, I noticed a woman in the front seat. Based on the officer's erratic driving behavior, I thought that the woman in the front seat of the cruiser was in need of immediate medical attention; hence, I exited the rear of the ambulance in order to assess the situation. My partner had also exited the unit.