
Joe Gerace



Objective

I wish to use my many decades of emergency service delivery and disaster response experience to improve pandemic service delivery for the Municipality of Anchorage. I have a history of handling emergency responses of all types, from small house fires to coordinated major disaster responses. As the pandemic situation is highly dynamic and requires daily adjustments to any operations plan, I am confident in my ability to provide the oversight and management that the MOA response is currently in need for operational success.

Experience

Director of Operations (March 2021 –Present)

Visit Healthcare (12001 Industry Way Suite B4, Anchorage AK 99515)

I currently oversee all aspects of operations for Visit Healthcare in Alaska. Visit Healthcare has been the sole testing provider for the MOA-AHD team since the end of July 2020. In Feb of 2021, Visit Healthcare took over sole responsibility for multiple fixed vaccination clinics and mobile vaccination clinics from the MOA and partner agencies. After assuming the operation of these ongoing clinics, Visit Healthcare went on to open 3 more fixed vaccination sites at the MOA's direction. I personally oversaw all aspects of the start-up and operation of these new clinic locations. When demand for Covid-19 vaccine lessened, I handled the demobilization of the clinics designated to close by the MOA-AHD team. Additionally I created tools to help manage the fair and equitable distribution of vaccine and track productivity. I worked with my AHD partners to adjust operations based on actual metrics not perceived inequities. Visit Healthcare – Alaska's operation is in excess of 40MM and provides employment to 305 local employees.

Red Cross Disaster Responder (June 1985–Present)

American Red Cross of Alaska (235 E. 5th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501)

I am a seasoned disaster responder with dozens of in person disaster deployments. From responding to local residential and apartment fires or providing senior leadership on National level disasters, I am trained, prepared and experienced at making tough decisions and taking immediate actions that are necessary for the success of a response operation. Just in the last 5 years, I have served on earthquake, hurricane, California Wildfires (3 years in a row), local and state level disaster responses.

I have specialty response skills including avalanches, landslides, plane crashes and dealing with a plane of US Department of State officials needing support. I am certified in over 20 specialties in Disaster Response. I am an experienced Logistics Section Chief.

I am currently the Chairman of the Board for the American Red Cross serving Alaska.

Medical Detachment Commander (Lieutenant Colonel-Alaska) (Jan 2020 –Present)

State of Alaska JTF-Medical (Bldg. 49000 JBER, Anchorage AK 99515)

Beginning in Jan of 2020, I started to assist the Alaska Guard/DHS & EM with response planning for a pandemic. I served as a subject matter expert on several topics in the State EOC. In March of 2020 I was called to State Active Duty (StAD) and served in a mix of pandemic response roles. I served on Joint Taskforce Medical providing direct medical and logistical support of the AKNG pandemic mission. I had additional responsibilities of the Covid screening program at the AKNG Headquarters. In partnership with LTC Sanders, we checked-in, inspected and tested all reporting AKNG soldiers who had been activated for the Covid 19 response in Alaska. As the pandemic transformed, I was assigned to support DHSS. My DHSS role at first was to lead a Covid-19 contact tracing team, later the role expanded to include helping citizens get scheduled for vaccinations and MAB treatments. I departed StAD in March of 2021, returning to regular drill status, to assume my current role at Visit Healthcare. I continue to serve in the 49th Brigade, ASDF. During my activation I oversaw the creation of a new EMS agency for statewide response to medical situations.

Firefighter/Paramedic (Dec 1982 –Present)

Various Agencies over many years

Started this role in December of 1982 as an EMT. Over next three years I added dozens of trainings to my skill set. In the Spring of 1985, I became a career FF/Paramedic. Over many years and several agencies, I have continued to serve my fellow citizens as both a paid & volunteer responder. I am a current Alaska EMS responder supporting several EMS/Fire agencies. I respond to emergency calls out of Seward AK, when time allows me to be at my second home. I teach EMS & Fire courses regularly helping citizens get the skills they need to make their communities more resilient and protecting life and property. I have used my advanced skills on many deployments to austere and heavily impacted regions worldwide. My field medical experience has trained me to be able to provide quality care in a multitude of hostile situations.

Skills

- ▶ State of Alaska Advanced EMS Instructor
- ▶ State of Alaska Advanced EMT
- ▶ State of Montana Paramedic
- ▶ Instructor Trainer for Advanced & Pediatric Life Support, Basic Life Support, Wilderness/Remote EMT, Emergency Medical Responder
- ▶ American Red Cross Advanced Disaster Instructor

Education

Masters of Business Administration (May 1998)

- ▶ Focus on Supply Chain Logistics and Operations

Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (Jan 1993)

- ▶ Focus on Preventative Health

Bachelors of Science Chemistry & Chemical Engineering (May 1988)

- ▶ Strong physical science background, earned dual Bachelors