FAST | MAINSTAGE™ Schedule

FAST26 schedule reference for attendees, CE documentation, and agency reimbursement support. Session details and speaker bios are included.

Day 1 - Thursday, May 28, 2026

8:00 AM - 8:15 AM

ELEMENT

FAST26 Day 1 Opening Remarks

Speakers: Eric Bauer, Joshua D. Hartman

About this session

Opening remarks from the MAINSTAGE.

Speaker bios

Eric Bauer

Chief Executive Officer | FlightBridgeED

It's hard to write a short bio about the guy who started this whole thing, right? Let me try to hit the highlights. Eric Bauer is the CEO and co-founder of FlightBridgeED. When critical care transport medicine was shrouded in mystery, and critical care transport education was lacking in many areas, Eric walked into the darkness and turned on the lights. More than a decade later, Eric's dedication to our industry continues to open doors, advance the practice, and bring about a positive change that helps responders and providers of all types provide better patient outcomes. He was the first to demystify mechanical ventilation for transport providers – a curriculum that has become the award-winning foundation of in-the-field ventilator management. Suffice it to say that Eric's talks at FAST have always been a highlight of the conference, or any conference for that matter. Eric is an advocate and mentor to so many in the industry.

Joshua D. Hartman

Senior Vice President, Group Publisher | HMP Global

Josh Hartman is a seasoned medical education executive with almost twenty years of experience in the delivery of in-person and digital medical information, training, and education, with a focus on interventional cardiology, emergency medicine, and public safety education. He co-founded TCTMD in 2000 and later managed major educational initiatives for the Cardiovascular Research Foundation before joining HMP Global.

8:15 AM - 9:00 AM

TALK

Preoxygenation and Peri-Intubation Optimization in 2026

Speakers: Scott Weingart

Talk details

It is all different in 2026--the entire game has changed. Find out how to keep your patients safe while intubating without having to carry a ventilator into the house.

Speaker bios

Scott Weingart

Scott is an ED Intensivist from New York. He did fellowships in Trauma, Surgical Critical Care, and ECMO. He is a physician coach focused on promoting eudaimonia and optimal performance. He is best known for talking to himself about Resuscitation and Critical Care on a podcast called EMCrit, which has been downloaded more than 100 million times.

9:10 AM - 9:30 AM

TALK

Rage To Mastery: When Good Isn't Good Enough

Speakers: Eric Bauer

Talk details
To be announced.

Speaker bios

Eric Bauer
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9:35 AM - 9:55 AM

TALK

Don't throw the baby out with the saltwater: The misunderstood role of crystalloid in critical care

Speakers: Mark Piehl

Talk details
A brief history of the decline of saline for use in trauma and sepsis shows why those studies don't say what people think they say, discusses the crucial use cases for crystalloid resuscitation, and explores how to avoid misuse through precision resuscitation and ultrasound.

Speaker bios

Mark Piehl
Dr. Mark Piehl is a board-certified pediatrician and pediatric intensivist who loves taking care of critically ill children, teaching pediatric emergency medicine to others, and dreaming up better ways to care for sick kids. He received his medical degree with honors from the UNC School of Medicine and his master's degree in public health from the UNC School of Public Health. Mark is a pediatric intensivist at WakeMed in Raleigh, NC, and served as Medical Director of the WakeMed Children's Hospital from 2009-2015. He is also the CMO and co-founder of LifeFlow.

10:00 AM - 10:20 AM

TALK

Revenge of the Evidence: Best Papers of the Year

Speakers: Jeff Jarvis

Talk details
To be announced.

Speaker bios

Jeff Jarvis
Dr. Jeff Jarvis is the chief medical officer and system medical director for the Metropolitan Area EMS Authority in Fort Worth, Texas, and an associate medical director for FlightBridgeED. He hosts The EMS Lighthouse Project Podcast, which reviews the scientific evidence guiding our EMS practice. Dr. Jarvis began his career in EMS over 30 years ago and remains a licensed paramedic today. His research interests include airway management and clinical performance measures.

10:25 AM - 10:45 AM

TALK

Overcoming the Overwhelming: Transporting the Sensory Overloaded Patient

Speakers: Nicole King

Talk details

For some patients, the EMS environment can be just as distressing as the emergency itself. Helicopter blades whirring, sirens, lights, radios, and crowded scenes can quickly overwhelm patients experiencing sensory sensitivity, including those with autism, neurodivergence, mental health conditions, or acute stress responses. This session explores how providers can recognize sensory overload and modify communication, environment, and transport practices.

Speaker bios

Nicole King

Nicole King, RN, BSN, CFRN, CCRN, CEN, C-NPT, EMT-B, is a nurse with a decade of dedication in emergency, pediatric, neonatal, and critical care. In her current role as a Critical Care Transport Nurse for Boston MedFlight, Nicole's expertise is deeply rooted in diverse and challenging healthcare environments. With a B.S. in Nursing from MCPHS University and a background in Youth, Adult, and Family Services from Purdue University, Nicole brings a holistic perspective to her nursing practice.

10:45 AM - 10:55 AM

ELEMENT

Break | Meet with Exhibitors

About this session

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10:55 AM - 11:15 AM

TALK

Bizarre and Unusual Burns Case Studies: Outside the Textbook

Speakers: Allen Wolfe, Jr.

Talk details

Severe burn injuries create major resuscitation challenges, especially when they result from unusual or self-inflicted events. This case series presents two uncommon burn cases and discusses resuscitation, operational, psychosocial, and ethical factors that affect assessment, communication, and early care in complex burn cases.

Speaker bios

Allen Wolfe, Jr.

Allen C. Wolfe Jr., MSN, CNS, APRN, CFRN, CCRN, CTRN, TCRN, CMTE, FAASTN, is a nationally recognized leader in transport nursing with over 35 years of nursing experience, including 35 years in critical care transport by air and ground. He is Senior Director of Clinical Education at Life Link III and previously directed clinical education at Air Methods. A leading U.S. authority on prehospital LVAD management, Allen is widely published, a national speaker, and co-editor of Patient Transport: Principles & Practice and Patient Transport: Medical Critical Care.

11:20 AM - 11:40 AM

TALK

Split-Second Obstetrics: The Amniotic Fluid Ambush

Speakers: Elizabeth Garchar

Talk details

A high-intensity dive into one of the most unpredictable and rapidly evolving emergencies in medicine. This session blends real-world obstetrics, critical care, and prehospital decision-making to explore what happens when a routine delivery turns into a fight against the clock.

Speaker bios

Elizabeth Garchar

Dr. Elizabeth Garchar, MD, FACOG, is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist and fellowship-trained maternal-fetal medicine specialist. A native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, she completed her undergraduate studies in anthropology at the University of New Mexico before entering UNM's combined BA/MD program. She earned her medical degree in 2016, followed by residency in obstetrics and gynecology and fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine, all at UNM.

11:45 AM - 12:05 PM

TALK

I got a pulse! Now What?

Speakers: Geoff Murphy

Talk details

This talk challenges the idea that cardiac arrest outcomes are decided in the arrest phase alone. It shifts the focus to ROSC care where oxygenation, ventilation, perfusion, temperature control, and clinical decisions can determine neurological survival.

Speaker bios

Geoff Murphy

Geoff is an active flight paramedic and the founder and lead instructor of Master Your Medics. He created Master Your Medics to help EMTs and Paramedics dig below the surface of medicine and truly understand why we do the things we do. He has taught thousands of EMS students at several EMS colleges and has provided consultation to other educators to help improve their courses.

12:05 PM - 1:05 PM

ELEMENT

Lunch

About this session

Lunch at FAST is designed to keep attendees fueled, focused, and ready for the next session. Take the time to sit down, recharge, connect with colleagues, and continue the conversation.

1:10 PM - 1:30 PM

ELEMENT

The FAST Awards 2026

Speakers: Chris Pfingsten, Spencer Oliver

About this session

Every year, we recognize outstanding individuals in pre-hospital, critical care, and emergency medicine for their incredible contributions to the industry. These awards highlight the best and brightest among us.

Speaker bios

Chris Pfingsten

FlightBridgeED / EMS 20/20

Chris Pfingsten is part of the FlightBridgeED team and co-host of EMS 20/20. At FAST, Chris helps bring energy, humor, and connection to the MAINSTAGE experience while keeping the program moving and the audience engaged.

Spencer Oliver

FlightBridgeED / EMS 20/20

Spencer Oliver is part of the FlightBridgeED team and co-host of EMS 20/20. At FAST, Spencer helps shape the on-stage experience, bringing humor, timing, and a clinician-centered voice to the conference.

1:35 PM - 1:55 PM

TALK

Bringing Back Facemask Ventilation

Speakers: Jim DuCanto

Talk details

This session examines the origins of the face mask and its use, methods to maximize effectiveness of single-provider and two-provider face mask ventilation, and the possibilities afforded by High-Flow Nasal Oxygen and its synergy with facemask ventilation.

Speaker bios

Jim DuCanto

Dr. James DuCanto is a practicing anesthesiologist at multiple practice locations in the Advocate Aurora Health Care system. Through FOAMed, he has collaborated with Emergency Medicine, Anesthesiology, Critical Care, and Prehospital and Retrieval Medical educators worldwide. He has produced innovations related to airway management, including the SSCOR DuCanto Suction Catheter, the SALAD Technique, and a simulator to demonstrate and practice the SALAD technique.

2:00 PM - 2:20 PM

TALK

Behind the Decision: A Leadership and Clinician Dialogue on Point-of-Care Ultrasound in Transport Medicine

Speakers: Jason Clark

Talk details

To be announced.

Speaker bios

Jason Clark

Jason is the Senior Vice-President of Field Operations for Apollo MedFlight. His career of serving others for 25 years started in the fire service in 1999, and he joined the air medical industry in 2005 as a flight paramedic. Jason has been an industry presenter for multiple conferences across various leadership and clinical care topics, a published educator and reviewer, and received the 2017 Tim Hynes Award.

2:20 PM - 3:15 PM

ELEMENT

Break | Meet with Exhibitors

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3:20 PM - 3:40 PM

TALK

An Edge Case That Tests the System: Confidently Wrong

Speakers: Jean François-Couture

Talk details
In this session, we drop into a high-stakes DKA case where the seemingly obvious next step collides with another profound metabolic derangement, and a decision that feels logical can quickly turn fatal. The finale is a practical message for the field: edge cases are where clinicians get tested, and even in an AI-enabled era, expertise still decides how the story ends.

Speaker bios

Jean François-Couture
Jean-François Couture, MD, CCFP(EM), is an emergency physician from Montreal, Canada, co-founder of Paratus Medical, and host of the Paratus Podcast. He worked exclusively in critical care, including the ICU, for the first 10 years of his career and now concentrates his practice in emergency medicine. He has maintained an interest in teaching, simulation, quality assessment, and the logistics of resuscitation.

3:45 PM - 4:05 PM

TALK

Pediatric Push Dose Epi: 1 part mathlete, 2 parts common sense

Speakers: Rob Bryant

Talk details
To be announced.

Speaker bios

Rob Bryant
Dr. Bryant obtained his medical degree from the University of Utah School of Medicine and completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Arizona. He has additional training in Critical Care Medicine and is board-certified in both Emergency Medicine and Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Bryant is dedicated to patient care, medical education, and research, and frequently presents at national and international conferences.

4:10 PM - 4:30 PM

TALK

Ditch the Saltwater, Save the Brain: The Case for Plasma First in TBI

Speakers: Peter Antevy

Talk details
What if the fluid you've been giving every TBI patient for the last 30 years is making them worse? Backed by two decades of data and a large-scale prehospital RCT on the horizon, this session makes the case that plasma-first is the next standard of care.

Speaker bios

Peter Antevy
Dr. Peter Antevy, the innovator of the Handtevy Pediatric Resuscitation System, is a nationally recognized lecturer and expert in pre-hospital pediatrics. He serves as EMS Medical Director for multiple Florida agencies and is an Associate Medical Director for FlightBridgeED.

4:30 PM - 4:35 PM	ELEMENT **Day 1 Closing**

Day 2 - Friday, May 29, 2026

8:00 AM - 8:15 AM

ELEMENT

FAST26 Day 2 Opening Remarks

Speakers: Eric Bauer, Joshua D. Hartman

About this session

Opening remarks from the MAINSTAGE.

Speaker bios

Eric Bauer

Chief Executive Officer | FlightBridgeED

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Joshua D. Hartman

Senior Vice President, Group Publisher | HMP Global

Josh Hartman is a seasoned medical education executive with almost twenty years of experience in the delivery of in-person and digital medical information, training, and education, with a focus on interventional cardiology, emergency medicine, and public safety education. He co-founded TCTMD in 2000 and later managed major educational initiatives for the Cardiovascular Research Foundation before joining HMP Global.

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

TALK

57 Seconds to Scene: The ATCEMS Response to Austin's 6th Street Shooter

Speakers: Carey Chaudoir, Jennifer Barnhart, Mark Karonika, Richard Murry, Robert Luckritz

Talk details

In the early morning hours of March 1, 2026, a routine Saturday night in Austin's West 6th Street entertainment area escalated into a mass-casualty incident. Attendees gained practical insight into how system design and deployment directly impact time to patient contact in high-density urban settings.

Speaker bios

Carey Chaudoir

Commander | Austin Police Department

Cary Chaudoir is a Commander for the Austin Police Department assigned to Downtown Area Command. Commander Chaudoir has been with APD for 24 years.

Jennifer Barnhart

Clinical Specialist | Austin-Travis County EMS

Jennifer Barnhart is a Clinical Specialist for Austin-Travis County EMS and a member of the Counter Assault Strike Team-Medical. CS Barnhart has been with ATCEMS for 6 years.

Mark Karonika

Division Chief | Austin-Travis County EMS

Mark Karonika is a Division Chief for Austin-Travis County EMS currently assigned as an Operations Shift Chief. Chief Karonika has been with ATCEMS for 25 years.

Richard Murry

Captain | Austin-Travis County EMS

Richard Murry is a Captain for Austin-Travis County EMS and is currently assigned to Downtown Area Command. Captain Murry has been with ATCEMS for 15 years. He has spent the last 12 years in the department's special operations division with assignments on the All Hazards Rescue Team and the Counter Assault Strike Team - Medical.

Robert Luckritz

Chief | Austin-Travis County EMS

Robert Luckritz has served in healthcare for nearly 30 years, serving in many roles including EMS Chief and hospital leader. Before joining hospital administration, Robert served as the Chief of Jersey City EMS.

9:10 AM - 9:30 AM

TALK

Reimagining Resuscitation Physiology: How Nebulized Nitroglycerin Augments Carotid Flow in Cardiac Arrest

Speakers: Bruce Hoffman

Talk details

What if improving survival from cardiac arrest wasn’t just about pushing harder - but perfusing smarter? This session explores the physiology behind pulmonary vascular resistance, the limitations of current resuscitation strategies, and how a simple, prehospital-ready intervention could redefine how we think about brain-directed resuscitation.

Speaker bios

Bruce Hoffman

Bruce Hoffman is a registered nurse, paramedic, and educational leader with graduate degrees in nursing, health professions education, and advanced practice. His professional interests include acute care cardiology, critical care transport, servant leadership, adaptive education, and mobile healthcare simulation. He is a senior educator for FlightBridgeED and a regular speaker at specialty conferences.

9:35 AM - 9:55 AM

TALK

Get Comfortable Being Uncomfortable: Debating the Drugs We Think We Know in Critical Care EMS

Speakers: William Heuser

Talk details
To be announced.

Speaker bios

William Heuser
William Heuser, PharmD, BCCCP, MS, EMT-P, FP-C is a clinical critical care pharmacist, course director/clinical professor of pharmacology, clinical toxicologist, and certified flight paramedic/firefighter. He has presented at national conferences and has extensive research experience in resuscitative medicine.

9:55 AM - 10:30 AM

ELEMENT

Break | Meet with Exhibitors

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10:35 AM - 10:55 AM

TALK

Beyond the Circuit: Cardiac Collapse on VV ECMO

Speakers: Shaylah Montgomery

Talk details
Transporting patients on ECMO presents unique physiologic and operational challenges, particularly during prolonged fixed-wing missions. This case presentation follows a young patient transported over five hours while supported on VV ECMO who experienced sudden hemodynamic collapse mid-flight.

Speaker bios

Shaylah Montgomery
Shaylah has dedicated 13 years to Emergency Medical Services and has been a Registered Nurse since 2015, specializing in critical care and emergency settings. Since 2018, she has worked as a flight clinician, combining her passion for acute patient care with aviation.

10:55 AM - 11:15 AM

TALK

Don't Let the Beat Drop! Pearls & Pitfalls in Prehospital Pacing

Speakers: Jacob A. Miller

Talk details
Transcutaneous pacing is a temporizing, yet potentially life-saving, intervention for patients with severe symptomatic bradycardia. This presentation reviews recent evidence on TCP performed by EMS clinicians, along with recommendations to ensure effective therapy is delivered.

Speaker bios

Jacob A. Miller
Jacob Miller is a Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Paramedic with a background in flight, critical care transport, and emergency nursing. He is on the Board of Directors of the Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association and has been recognized by ENA Connection's 20 under 40.

11:20 AM - 11:40 AM

TALK

More than checklists, can we bake a cake at 140 knots?

Speakers: Adam Hart

Talk details

In critical care, EMS, and HEMS, hesitation costs time. This session advocates for integrated systems of preparation, discipline, and decision-making that reduce cognitive load and enhance situational awareness in any environment.

Speaker bios

Adam Hart

Adam Hart is a seasoned Critical Care Flight Paramedic with over 14 years of frontline experience. A decorated veteran of the United States Coast Guard, Adam served in Southeast Alaska conducting complex medevac missions and search and rescue operations. He also teaches paramedic students as an adjunct professor.

11:45 AM - 12:05 PM

TALK

Reducing the Pucker Factor (Through improving pediatric readiness)

Speakers: Christopher Blake

Talk details

A condensed, rapid-fire session designed to tackle one of the biggest stress points in EMS: pediatric emergencies. Attendees explore why stress changes clinical decision-making, how preparation shapes calm under pressure, and what concrete actions can improve pediatric readiness.

Speaker bios

Christopher Blake

Christopher Blake is a Flight Nurse Specialist / Paramedic with more than 20 years of combined experience in EMS, critical care, and flight operations. He is the founder of The Blakery Content and creator and host of the Reducing the Pucker Factor Podcast.

12:05 PM - 1:05 PM

WORKSHOP

What Your Call Data Is Already Telling You — and How to Listen (optional)

Speakers: Pat Thompson

Talk details

Every EMS agency generates more data per shift than most clinicians have time to review. This sponsored learning event explores how agencies use structured data to improve cardiac arrest outcomes, reduce documentation burden, benchmark performance, and close the loop between the field and the emergency department.

Speaker bios

Pat Thompson

Pat Thompson represents ESO for this sponsored learning event.

1:10 PM - 1:30 PM

TALK

From Chaos to Clarity: Practical Mental Health Tools for the Frontline

Speakers: James Boomhower

Talk details

This session delivers practical, field-tested strategies for managing the psychological demands of emergency medicine and critical care transport. Topics include burnout, compassion fatigue, self-care habits, and personal wellness frameworks that protect against vicarious trauma.

Speaker bios

James Boomhower

James Boomhower is a veteran paramedic, crisis worker, and mental health professional with over twenty years of experience in emergency and critical care. He serves as a Critical Care Transport Specialist-Paramedic and Peer Support Director at Boston MedFlight and is the founder of Stay Fit 4 Duty.

1:35 PM - 1:55 PM

TALK

Are You Ready For It: Postpartum Emergencies That Kill—Recognition and Response for EMS

Speakers: Amy Loucks

Talk details

Postpartum is not reassurance - it is a risk factor. This rapid, high-yield session equips EMS and critical care providers to recognize and respond to the leading causes of postpartum mortality through real-world cases and field-focused decision points.

Speaker bios

Amy Loucks

Amy serves as Director of Innovative Education and Simulation for the Lifeguard Emergency and Critical Care Transport Team at the University of New Mexico Hospitals. With over two decades of experience in nursing and paramedicine, her expertise centers on high-acuity maternal, neonatal, and pediatric care.

2:20 PM - 2:50 PM

TALK

Phactors: Impacting the Platinum 10 in the Post-Intubation Phase

Speakers: Eric Bauer

Talk details

To be announced.

Speaker bios

Eric Bauer

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2:50 PM - 3:15 PM

ELEMENT

Break | Meet with Exhibitors

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3:20 PM - 3:40 PM

TALK

Human Factors in Critical Care Transport: Examining Heuristic Traps

Speakers: Robert O'Donnell

Talk details
This presentation focuses on how human factors influence decision making and can lead to errors in clinical medicine and backcountry expeditions. It outlines four heuristic traps and discusses examples of how they relate to clinical decision-making.

Speaker bios

Robert O'Donnell
Bobby O'Donnell is a critical care flight paramedic with Boston MedFlight with over a decade of EMS experience. An accomplished author, his book Running Wild: A Quest for Healing Across Seven Continents describes his journey around the world in the wake of the Boston Marathon Bombing.

3:45 PM - 4:05 PM

TALK

Strangled by Tradition: Why Cervical Collars Need To Go

Speakers: Benjamin N. Abo

Talk details
Cervical collars are still common in EMS not because the evidence strongly supports them, but because they have become routine. This session takes a hard look at current research, patient-centered spine care, and practical field decisions.

Speaker bios

Benjamin N. Abo
Dr. Abo is a paramedic, EMS physician, medical director, and internationally recognized educator in prehospital, wilderness, and disaster medicine. He serves as Chief Medical Officer for Escambia County Public Safety and supports multiple EMS and special operations teams.

4:05 PM - 4:30 PM

TALK

Respiratory Alkalosis, Lactate, and Minute Volume: What to do in Metabolic Acidosis

Speakers: Charlie Swearingen

Talk details
Metabolic acidosis becomes more dangerous when a clinician forgets that the patient is often surviving on compensation. This session explores metabolic acidosis, lactate elevation, respiratory compensation, and ventilator management, especially when clinicians remove compensation during sedation or intubation.

Speaker bios

Charlie Swearingen
Charlie Swearingen is a critical care educator, author, and flight paramedic with over 20 years of experience in EMS and critical care transport. As the founder and owner of MeduPros, he focuses on empowering clinicians with practical, no-nonsense learning.

4:30 PM - 4:55 PM	TALK **“It Doesn’t Matter … Unless It Does”** Speakers: Michael Frakes **Talk details** Most of the time, it doesn’t matter. Then sometimes it does. This session takes a closer look at edge cases where physiology, bias, and environment collide and asks a simple question: when should you care? **Speaker bios** **Michael Frakes** Michael Frakes is the Chief Quality Officer and Director of Clinical Care for Boston MedFlight. His transport and medical experience includes work as a firefighter, EMT, paramedic, flight communications specialist, and nurse in emergency, pediatric emergency, ICU, and transport settings.
4:55 PM - 5:00 PM	ELEMENT **Day 2 Closing**