Dear Region 11 EMS Family,

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Robert “David” Reisinger, RN, EMT-P on 4/29/2020. David was the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Coordinator for the department of Emergency Medicine at Cook County Health and within the Chicago Region 11 EMS System from 1999-2018.

David started his medical career as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), practicing in his hometown of Louisville Kentucky. While working as an EMT, he obtained his Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Louisville in 1988. David moved to Chicago in 1992 and began working as an Emergency Department (ED) nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where he also served as the Assistant EMS Coordinator from 1995-1998. Additionally, he obtained his paramedic certification in 1998 at the St. Francis Hospital Paramedic Program.

In 1999, David was recruited to Cook County Hospital for the position of EMS Coordinator within the department of Emergency Medicine. During his time as EMS Coordinator at Cook County, he made significant contributions to numerous parts of the health system. He was an outstanding ED nurse coordinator, seamlessly delivering bedside care while managing the flow of the entire ED. As an educator, he impacted thousands of prehospital providers while teaching at the Malcolm X College Paramedic Program and the Region 11 EMS System. Finally, as an EMS Coordinator, David was instrumental in the elevation of Stroger Hospital to Resource Hospital status within the Region 11 EMS System in 2010. Despite his extremely busy hospital based career, David always maintained a presence in the prehospital environment, working as a Firefighter/Paramedic on the River Grove Fire Department and as a volunteer with the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT).

David’s kindness, generosity and altruism touched all those he worked with, especially the ED staff at Stroger Hospital, his Malcolm X students, the providers and colleagues throughout Region 11 EMS, and his fellow providers at the River Grove Fire Department. Most importantly, his gentle spirit and compassionate nature positively impacted the thousands of patients that he cared for in both the prehospital and hospital setting.

David is survived by his husband Kuan Lin and many family and friends. Details on memorial arrangements will be forwarded when available.