

Statement from Chris Van Order:

Here is my statement: As a volunteer firefighter for Fairfax Fire and rescue department for 7 years and an EMT with DC Fire &EMS department I've treated many allergic reactions and many asthmatics. The protocol we have in the schools for asthmatics in respiratory distress is not going to work. The protocol states a student in distress gets 8 puffs from the inhaler with a minute or two in between each puff. When someone is in respiratory distress there is inadequate breathing which means that person cannot inhale the medication properly to get it deep into the lungs where it is needed. In the last 10 years all fire departments have gone to training their people at the national level with the national registry. This makes it so there is a common medical treatment standard within the fire departments. The medical protocol for an asthmatic in distress is Epi.