

Bureau of EMS: Vitals

Florida Department of Health



Florida Excellence in EMS Awards Honors State's Real Life Heroes

The Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the Emergency Medicine Learning & Resource Center (EMLRC) are teaming up to present the 17th Annual Excellence in EMS Awards to Florida's real life heroes, on Wednesday, July 18 at 5:30 pm, as part of ClinCon 2007, which will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando. The Florida Department of Health Bureau of EMS and the EMLRC will be honoring outstanding Florida EMS organizations and individuals who make a positive impact on local EMS throughout the state.

The Bureau of EMS received an overwhelming number of nominations for this year's Excellence in EMS awards. We thank

everyone for their participation in this program and encourage you to recognize all the outstanding individuals and organizations in your area.

The EMLRC is a nonprofit organization which has provided education to lifesavers since 1978. The EMLRC is dedicated to promoting and advancing emergency medicine, disaster management, prehospital emergency care, and public health through the provision of educational and research programs.

The EMLRC's Clinical Congress on Emergency Medical Services (ClinCon) is celebrating its 33rd consecutive year. ClinCon is a nationally-renowned educational program for EMS personnel. Along with the Advanced

Life Support Competition, the program draws attendees from across the country.

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EMLRC:

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ClinCon on the Web:

<http://www.emlrc.org/clincon2007.htm>

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State EMS Award Winners

EMT: Cliff Williams, Martin County Fire Rescue

Paramedic: David Hoilman, St. Lucie County Fire District

Dispatcher: Lucye Poole, Orange County Fire Rescue Department

Provider: Port Orange Fire Rescue

Educator: Elizabeth Jordan, Broward Community College

EMS for Children: Dr. Jim Broselow & Dr. Bob Luten

Larry S. Jordan Hall of Fame: Robert Moreland, Delray Beach Fire Rescue

Raymond H. Alexander EMS Medical Direction: Dr. Scott Ulin, Tamarac Fire Rescue

EMS Nurse: Kimberly Pickett, Sunstar EMS

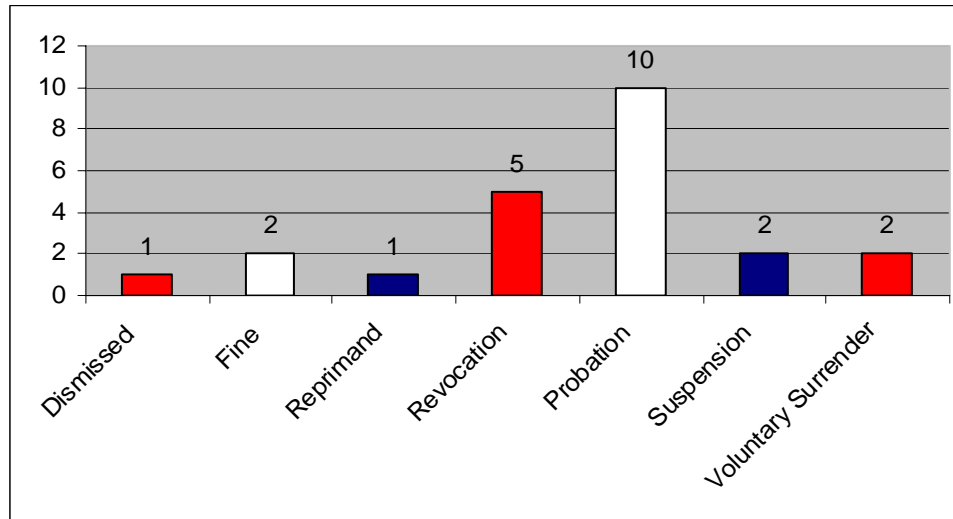
Color Photo: Kenneth Nielson for Okaloosa County Dept. of Public Safety

Black & White Photo: Eddie Sperling, for Sunstar EMS

Video of the Year: Susie Whitfield, Escambia County EMS

Friend of EMS: Lee County Florida United Way 211 Program

EMT and Paramedic Disciplinary Actions March-May 2007



EMS Inspections April 2007-June 2007

Announced	24	63%
Unannounced	14	37%
In Compliance	33	87%
Non-Compliant	5	13%
Total Pass 24 Months	0	
Total Inspections	38	

Bureau of EMS Funding

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services is funded by two sources. The first is from surcharges on moving traffic and boating violation. Fees for ambulance licensure and paramedic and EMT certification are the other source of funding. There is no tax on the general public and no general revenue funds are allocated to fund the Bureau.

Distribution of approximately \$11 million collected each fiscal year from the surcharges is specified in Chapter 401 Part II Florida Statutes (FS) and is as follows: 15% of the total collected each year is to be used for the administration of all parts of Chapter 401 FS; 45% of the funds collected by each

county is returned to the county; the remaining 40% is to be used for matching grants (10% of the 40% must be used for grants to rural EMS organizations). These funds are collected by the county governments and then transmitted to Tallahassee for deposit in the EMS Trust Fund. Fund totals are determined on a fiscal year basis and are allocated using the above formula in the subsequent fiscal year.

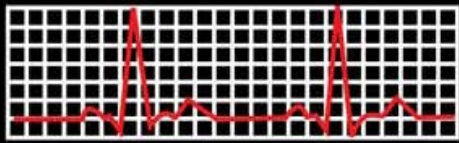
The amount of funds generated by fees each fiscal year varies, in a recertification year the amount increases dramatically. The fees for licensure and certification are listed in section 401.34 (1) FS, Part III. Section 401.34

(2) FS Part III reads as follows: “(2) Fees collected under this section must be deposited to the credit of the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund and must be applied solely for salaries and expenses of the department incurred in implementing and enforcing this part.”

Website for the Florida Statutes:

<http://www.flsenate.gov>

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Annual Meeting

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CENTRAL
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EMS Community for 19 years...
and counting.**

2007

Pre-Conference: October 9-10

Conference and Exhibits: October 11-13

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EMS Week Kick-Off Celebration

As most of you know, Governor Charlie Crist proclaimed May 20, 2007-May 26, 2007 as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. This year's theme was "EMS: Extraordinary People, Extraordinary Service". This marked the 34th year that EMS Week was celebrated throughout the nation. The event brought together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of the medical "front line".

In honor of EMS Week and the

Florida Department of Health's tenth anniversary, the department joined national leaders to raise national attention to the dedication of our nation's EMS professionals for their accomplishments and contributions to improve public welfare through healthcare, medical transportation, injury prevention, education, disaster response, homeland security, and other initiatives that reduce healthcare costs and save lives. The Division of Emergency Medical Operations, Bureau of EMS, partnered with various state and

local agencies and organizations from the Big Bend and other areas of the state to showcase the three P's: Prevention, Preparedness, and Personal Responsibility. This partnership led to a memorable EMS kick-off event at the Governor's Square Mall in Tallahassee on May 19, 2007.

We take this time to recognize our partners at the Division of Forestry who were unable to participate because they and others were battling the wildfires.



Partners of the Celebration

Governor's Square Mall

American College of Emergency Physicians

Emergency Medicine and Learning Resource Center

Florida Department of Transportation

Leon County EMS

Gadsden County EMS

Tallahassee Fire Department

LifeNet Tallahassee

American Red Cross

Tallahassee Police Department

Leon County Sheriff's Department

Brain and Injury Association of Florida

City of Tallahassee

SafeKids

Office of Trauma

Office of Injury Prevention

EMS for Children Program

State Fire Marshal

Fish and Wildlife Commission

Sears

Big Bend Disaster Animal Response Team

City of Tallahassee Electric Co.

FL Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology

Bureau of Fire and Arson

There were a wide range of activities and sights to see that allowed the public to learn how different agencies and organizations work together to improve emergency medical services and safety for Floridians.

And of course a big debt of gratitude to the extraordinary service men and women in uniform providing valuable information to the public!

A special thanks to Jean Kline, Deputy Secretary of Health; Dr. Joe Nelson, State EMS Medical

Director; John Bixler, Chief of the Bureau of EMS; and Dr. Jennifer Bencie Fairburn, Director for the Division of Emergency Medical Operations for their speeches at the event.



Activities

- Fire Department Extrication Demonstration
- Child Safety Seat Installations and Checks
- Sheriff Deputies on Horseback
- Crash Test Dummies
- EMS for Children Giveaways
- Fire Trucks and Ambulances
- EMS Disaster Truck
- Emergency Medicine & Resource Center Mobile Simulation Lab
- Generator Display
- Weather Radio Display
- Utilities Display
- Crime Prevention and Specialty Vehicles
- Landing, Tour, and Take-off of LifeNet Helicopter
- Red Light Running Display
- Bicycle Helmet Giveaways
- Child ID Badges and Fingerprinting
- SWAT Team Equipment Display



EMS Week Celebration Cont...

In addition to celebration activities, injury prevention and outreach activities were conducted to raise public awareness of the benefits of quality and timely emergency medical and trauma services as well as to stress the importance of personal responsibility for health and safety. These events also provided educational resources for support of the continued availability and accessibility emergency medical services and trauma centers throughout our state. For example, the EMS for Children Program (EMSC), in recognition of National EMSC Day, distributed the following resources to all 67 County Health Departments:

Broselow Pediatric Antidotes for Chemical Warfare Tapes

JumpSTART/START Badge Buddies

Save a Child Posters

Emergency Information Forms

The Broselow Pediatric Antidotes for Chemical Warfare tapes, JumpSTART/START Badge Buddies, and Save a Child posters are designed as triage tools to be used to assess and treat pediatric patients.

The Emergency Information Form (EIF) was created by the Florida Institute for Family Involvement (FIFI). The intent of the EIF is to provide comprehensive information to caretakers and health care workers specific to an individual child to ensure that the express needs of the child are met in the event of a health care emergency or in a disaster situation. The form is to be placed in a common area within the child's home and/or school for easy access.

The Bureau of EMS recognizes and thanks all of its constituents and partners for their accomplishments and contributions to improve public welfare by providing quality, timely, lifesaving services for the citizens and visitors of your community and our state. Together we continue to improve Florida's capability to provide these 24/7 services in our communities.



Sterling Awards

The Florida Department of Health utilizes the Sterling Criteria for Organizational Performance Excellence as a management framework to improve performance. The Sterling Criteria are designed to be an effective and valuable tool for organizations seeking to confirm their strengths and focus on their opportunities for improvement.

This year marked the 15th Annual Sterling Conference with the theme: "Maximize Your Return". The conference, with its 50 workshops, was a one-stop source for education that enabled over 1,400 participants, including those from 20 County Health Departments, to benchmark the best practices of companies and organizations from across the nation, network, and share ideas to develop strategies to take back to their jobs to enhance their performance excellence journeys.

The conference was topped off by the annual Governor's Sterling Award Banquet in which Janet Collins, Program Administrator from the Office of

Trauma, was recognized as a "Sterling Rookie of the Year" by the Florida Sterling Council. Lisa Walker, Deputy Chief at the Bureau of EMS, was also recognized as part of a team that produced the "High Quality Challenge Feedback Report" resulting from a site survey conducted by a Governor's Sterling Examiner Team. Lynn Drawdy, from the Office of Public Health Preparedness, was recognized for being on a team that produced one of the two best Governor's Sterling Award feedback reports.

The Bureau commends Lisa Walker and Janet Collins for their successful completion as first year Sterling Examiners and congratulates Lynn Drawdy for being appointed "Master Examiner" for her years of service and dedication to performance excellence utilizing the Sterling Criteria.

John Pieno, Chairman of the Florida Sterling Council stated, "Sterling is fortunate to have so many dedicated quality professionals committed to our vision to make Florida a state of excellence."

Lisa Walker said, "The Sterling Examiner process, although very rigorous, was extremely rewarding. I was able to learn from leading

professionals from private and public organizations that will enhance my professional growth and allow me to bring ideas back to the Bureau of EMS."

The foundation of all Sterling assessment processes is the core of highly trained professional Examiners. They are an impartial board of working professionals who review each written application and conduct site visits for those organizations wishing to receive an on-site review.

For more information about the Florida Sterling Council or how to join the board of Sterling Examiners, please visit their website at:

<http://www.floridasterling.com>



From left to right: Susan McDevitt, Office of Trauma; Lynn Drawdy, Office of Public Health Preparedness; Janet Collins, Office of Trauma; Jean Kline, Deputy Secretary of Health; Ana M. Viamonte Ros, State Surgeon General; Lisa Walker, Bureau of EMS; Jennifer Bencie Fairburn, Division Director of DEMO; John Bixler, Chief, Bureau of EMS; Patricia Kenyon, EMSC Program Coordinator.

Lake-Sumter EMS Well-Check Program Grows

“Lake-Sumter EMS staff often become a personal link to the community ...”

When Lake-Sumter Emergency Medical Services started the Well-Check Program in 2002 it served only 15 clients. Now, five years later, this home-based wellness service, reaches out to over 100 homebound community members.

As Jim Judge, Executive Director of Lake-Sumter EMS explains: “The Well-Check Program is one of the ways that we put into action our commitment to ‘keep in rhythm with our community.’ There is no better way to demonstrate how much we care for the citizens of Lake County than to reach out to the homebound through this well-received form of medical assistance.”

Staffed by Lake-Sumter EMS paramedics, the Well-Check program serves homebound citizens who live in the rural areas of Lake County where access to regular healthcare

can be problematic. While the program’s primary focus is on wellness and medical issues for this under-served population, Lake-Sumter EMS staff often become a personal link to the community as they share information on resources for home repair, nutrition, and transportation.

During weekly visits, the paramedics not only conduct a “check-up”, but also get to know the residents. By increasing awareness and building a relationship with the patients and becoming familiar with their health issues, paramedics are better able to make an effective determination of how to treat the patient.

For more information on the Lake-Sumter EMS Well-Check Program located in Lake County, please contact Deanna Chapman at (352) 383-4554.

Ms. Chapman is employed as a Captain/Community Resource Officer with Lake-Sumter EMS and is a member of the Public Information, Education and Relations Committee (PIER) for the EMS Advisory Council.

If your EMS agency is providing unique or innovative services, PIER would like to hear from you. Please contact Frieda Travis at (850) 245-4440 ext. 2736 or Cory Richter (PIER Chairperson) at (772) 562-2028 ext. 3007.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Nerina Stepanovsky on her recent completion of her PhD. Nerina, on behalf of the Bureau of EMS, we would like to say congratulations on this momentous achievement. A heart felt thank you for your dedication to quality education of Florida EMTs and Paramedics. We look forward to you sharing your knowledge to improve EMS in Florida.



Bio: Her credentials are substantial, but to summarize, she has been a FL Paramedic since 1995, an ACLS instructor since 1981, a BTLs provider since 1983, and instructor since 1997. She holds certificates as a Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider since 1991 and instructor since 2001 and a Prehospital Burn Life Support Provider. In 2006, she was recognized with a State EMS Award of Excellence for EMS Nursing.

Did You Know?

The Department of Health, Division of IT currently has four enclosed Mobile Communications Units (MCU). These enclosed custom utility trailers are equipped with a high-speed satellite providing 2Mb down and 1Mb upstream data speed, self generated power, rooftop air conditioner, and necessary infrastructure hardware pre-configured to bring you online to the DOH network. In addition there is a “dirty internet feed” available for unsecured non-DOH traffic as well as four ac-

tive VOIP phone lines. Additional resources are available upon request such as server hardware to restore data from valid backups and generators to provide power for other facilities. Other IT office equipment (laptops, printers, phones...) can be requested to fulfill your mission requirements.

Serving all DOH offices, these communication units have the capability to get mission critical IT services back online at existing or alternate facilities. Units can be deployed in all disaster

response efforts such as natural disasters, bioterrorism, and response readiness exercises where data and voice communications are vital. The MCUs are capable of being deployed on a moments notice.



Kudos!

Kudos to Melia Jenkins, Deputy Chief of the Bureau of EMS, for receiving an Award of Excellence from the National Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program at the EMSC Grantee Meeting held in Silver Spring, MD. This meeting was sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration. Melia was honored

with this award for her years of service as an EMSC coordinator who has promoted EMSC outreach, education, research and service.

The Florida EMSC Mission: To promote prevention and improve emergency care outcomes for children through a comprehensive and integrated statewide EMS system.

Florida Department of Health

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Fax: 850-488-9408



“To provide leadership in EMS that improves and ensures the health, safety and well-being of all people in Florida.”

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| July 18th | EMS State Awards Ceremony in Conjunction with ClinCon |
| July 19th | EMS Advisory Council Meeting in Orlando, FL |
| September 5th and 6th | Strategic Planning Session in Tampa, FL |
| November 27th and 28th | Prehospital Pediatric Education Symposium 2007 Sponsored by the Florida EMSC Program Office and the Emergency Medicine Learning Resource Center in Orlando, FL |

For more information visit: <http://www.emlrc.org/prepeds2007.htm>
