



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2015 National EMS Award Recipients Announced

Clinton, Miss. – NAEMT and *EMS World* announced the recipients of the 2015 *National EMS Awards of Excellence*. We congratulate the following recipients and recognize their outstanding achievements and contributions in emergency, mobile and military healthcare:

Brandy Rice, Paramedic, Arkansas City, Kansas
2015 NAEMT/Nasco Paramedic of the Year, *sponsored by Nasco*

Glen Anderson, EMT, Bridgewater, Massachusetts
2015 NAEMT/Braun Industries EMT of the Year, *sponsored by Braun Industries*

Matthew Wolkenbreit, Paramedic, Colrain, Massachusetts
2015 NAEMT/Jones & Bartlett Learning EMS Educator of the Year,
sponsored by Jones & Bartlett Learning

John Crowley, U.S. Navy Fleet Marine Force Corpsman (ret.), Hilliard, Ohio
2015 NAEMT/North American Rescue Military Medic of the Year,
sponsored by North American Rescue

Richmond Ambulance Authority, Richmond, Virginia
2015 Dick Ferneau Paid EMS Service of the Year, *sponsored by Ferno*

Calvert Advanced Life Support, Prince Frederick, Maryland
2015 Volunteer EMS Service of the Year, *sponsored by ZOLL*

The awards will be presented at NAEMT's General Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 16, in Las Vegas, Nev., and on Sept. 17, at EMS World Expo's opening ceremony. Learn more about the 2015 recipients:

Brandy Rice has worked 10 years as a full-time firefighter/paramedic for the Arkansas City Fire-EMS Department and part-time as an ER Tech for South Central Kansas Medical Center. She teaches several EMS and community CPR classes, implemented a Vial of Life program, and is involved in many other organizations that benefit the safety and health of members in her community. She also planned and coordinated the activities for EMS Week in May with local businesses. Rice was nominated by Jeri Smith, EMS director of the Arkansas City Fire-EMS Department, who said, "Brandy is a true 'caretaker' of the people of Arkansas City, Kansas: she goes above and beyond the call of duty. She often stays after an EMS call to help people with special needs. When a wheel chair bound woman returned home after an emergency hospital run with Brandy, she found her dishes clean, her grass mowed, new cordless phones installed, and a longer string attached to the ceiling fan she had been unable to reach before." Rice is a role model for ensuring that the needs of patients and their family are met, and has earned the respect of her colleagues.

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Glen Anderson, deputy chief of the Bridgewater State University Police Department, is recognized for launching the university's EMS program. He deployed an automatic external defibrillator (AED) program, and initiated CPR and First Responder training in his community. Awarded in 2011 for saving the life of a community member, Anderson has trained more than 1,000 people in CPR and first aid, some of which were sponsored by the program to become an EMT. He also introduced Naloxone, a.k.a. Narcan, to help university law enforcement officers combat the rise of Heroin overdoses. Anderson was instrumental in policy development as it relates to mental health issues, and is a strong supporter of programs addressing these issues, serving as an active member of the University's CARE team.

Matthew Wolkenbreit is chief instructor and executive director of Community911 Training, Inc., director of training and education at Colrain Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc. (CVAA), and president of Franklin County Emergency Medical Services Committee. A dedicated EMS instructor, he teaches a variety of life saving and trauma care programs, as well as National Core Competency EMS Programs. He also teaches community programs, such as Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Chokesaver training for the food service industry, and other programs to educate and mentor EMS practitioners. Wolkenbreit initiated several educational opportunities for volunteer agencies. Gary Ponce, CEO and director of CVAA said, "Little did I know that he would not only change what had been happening locally, but would take us on a journey of redefining the who, what, where, when and why's of EMS training and much more as Massachusetts dived into the NREMT certification and NCCR training as one of the pilot states." Wolkenbreit is credited with providing clear information, guidance and structured planning to help volunteer agencies serve their communities effectively.

Navy Corpsman John Crowley served as Hospitalman (medic) in the Fleet Marine Force, a duty he was specially trained for to work with infantry Marines deployed to combat zones. His medical preparation and dedication was crucial to the wellbeing of the platoon, saving the lives of many Marines and foreign military allies while being injured himself and in spite of regular combat attacks. First Lieutenant Deven Revel said, "He ignored his own wounds to apply tourniquets to two Marines who had both lost legs, and treat his squad leader and interpreter who had suffered substantial wounds. His calmness under pressure and quick thinking were astonishing given his condition." In 2012, Crowley was awarded the esteemed Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement and the Purple Heart for wounds received in action during his deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Crowley also helped local villagers assess minor medical conditions and instructed Afghan National Army soldiers in basic trauma care.

Nominees for the Paramedic and EMT of the Year Awards are scored on how the nominee: provides superior patient care; is an effective advocate for patients and their families; works with peers to foster a positive work environment; demonstrates professionalism in interacting with patients, their families and other medical professionals; and demonstrates a commitment to continuing professional education.

Nominations for the Educator of the Year Award are scored on how the nominee: consistently demonstrates commitment to providing high quality, professional education for EMS practitioners; serves as an outstanding role model for EMS practitioners in the classroom and in the community; effectively mentors EMS students at all stages of their professional development; introduces and incorporates innovative approaches and tools in the classroom, which enhance students' learning experiences; and contributes and participates in the development of education content that expands the body of quality EMS curriculum.

Nominees for the Military Medic of the Year Award are recognized military medics (MOS-qualified active, reserve or National Guard U.S. Army Medic, Navy Corpsman or Air Force Medic) who demonstrate excellence in the performance of military emergency medicine, with their primary role being that of theater patient care.

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The **Richmond Ambulance Authority (RAA)** provides 9-1-1 services to the City of Richmond, Va., and non-emergency patient transport and critical care services within the Commonwealth of Virginia. RAA responds to over 60,000 calls for service annually with 42,000 patients transported to hospital. It is a 501c3, not-for-profit agency and has a staff of 240 full- and part-time EMTs and paramedics, as well as a communication center operated by 16 full-time system status controllers. Additionally RAA employs its own maintenance, logistics, billing, IT and reimbursement functions. RAA has run a number of very successful public health and injury prevention programs such as the successful "Rider Alert" motorcycle safety program that places identity cards inside riders helmets. This program, now a global collaboration, has issued over 1 million cards to riders around the world. RAA is also part of the USAF Pararescueman training "pipeline" and delivers clinical placement training to trainee PJs. It also provides fellowship placements for Central and South American-based trauma surgeons as part of the Pan American Trauma Society, where an overview of the EMS role in a busy trauma system is explained and demonstrated over two-week attachments where the surgeon is totally immersed into prehospital clinical operations.

Calvert Advanced Life Support is the sole advanced life support asset providing 100% volunteer emergency medical services to the citizens of Calvert County, Md. Calvert is one of nine departments providing fire, rescue and EMS to the community through the tiered response in partnership with seven departments providing basic life support and transport units. The department responds to 5,000 calls for service a year and consists of approximately 72 advanced-level EMS providers and 60 basic life support members. Training is key to Calvert's operations with an on-site training space and simulation laboratory available to members 24/7. The agency also has a Paramedic Early Intervention Program (PEIP) that places ALS gear on every BLS unit in the county, thus enabling paramedics to respond from any fire station on the ambulance and instantly upgrade the transport unit to the level of ALS. Calvert ALS participates in countywide and mandated online safety training courses and has a designated infection control officer.

Nominees for the Service of the Year Awards are scored on the following: advances in EMS education and training in the agency; innovations in prehospital care and protocol development implemented by the agency; medical community involvement with the agency; EMS system/program upgrades implemented by the agency; worker safety and well-being programs implemented by the agency; injury- and illness-prevention projects implemented by the agency; and public-education project sponsorships the agency is involved in.

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About NAEMT

Formed in 1975 and more than 50,000 members strong, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) is the only national association representing the professional interests of all emergency and mobile healthcare practitioners, including emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, emergency medical responders, paramedics, advanced practice paramedics, critical care paramedics, flight paramedics, community paramedics, and mobile integrated healthcare practitioners. NAEMT members work in all sectors of EMS, including government agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations settings, and in the military. Contact: Kathleen Taormina, 1-800-346-2368 kathleen.taormina@naemt.org

About EMS World

As the industry's first prehospital publication, *EMS World* has the reputation and body of work EMS providers have trusted for more than 42 years. With the highest circulation in the industry, the publication's primary audience is EMS chiefs, administrators and paramedics. As the leading EMS services portal, EMSWorld.com delivers breaking news 24/7 and exclusive online education and training for all levels of EMS practitioners, as well as the most comprehensive listing of EMS products, services and technologies in the industry. Contact: Nancy Perry, 1-800-547-7377, ext. 1110 nancy.perry@emsworld.com