

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

1930 9<sup>th</sup> STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95811-7043  
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875



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**Contact: June Iljana (916-616-0181)**  
**Photos and interviews with recipients are available.**

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES 2009 ANNUAL EMS AWARDS**

SACRAMENTO – Twenty-nine emergency medical services providers and associates were recognized today by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) for exceptional acts of bravery and service to their communities and the state. Daniel R. Smiley, Acting Director of the EMS Authority, presented the EMS Awards for service in 2009 at a meeting of the Commission on EMS in San Francisco.

“I am proud to present awards for heroic lifesaving efforts that highlight the excellent training and commitment of our providers,” said Smiley. “It’s equally important that we honor the individuals who have dedicated their entire careers to building and improving our EMS service in California. Their work has saved lives every day through creation, development and oversight of a coordinated, efficient and effective statewide EMS system.”

The EMS awards were created in 2007 to honor and recognize noteworthy or exceptional acts and service while working as EMS certified or licensed personnel, administrators, trainers, or volunteers within the EMS system. Visit [www.emsa.ca.gov/about/awards/default.asp](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/about/awards/default.asp) for information about the EMS Awards.

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS (2009)**

#### **LIFE SAVING MEDAL:**

Robert Kessler (Stockton, CA)

*For lifesaving actions on 18 July 2010 while off duty to treat a woman who was in full cardiac arrest*

Taylor A. Voss (Costa Mesa, CA)

*For lifesaving actions on 14 July 2010 while off duty to rescue a victim of a house fire*

#### **MEDAL OF VALOR**

John David Manzeck (Pleasant Hill, CA)

*For actions on 11 April 2010 to rescue a victim under extreme conditions*

#### **EMS CROSS**

Mike Giannini (Woodacre, CA)

*For providing the highest level of sustained EMS service and leadership in Marin County*

## EMSA - 2

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL:**

Chuck Baucom (Merced, CA)

*For providing superior sustained statewide leadership as a Chairman and member of the EMS Commission, and co-chair of the EMS Vision process that began in 1997*

Ron Blaul (Irvine, CA)

*For providing superior sustained statewide leadership as a Chairman and member of the EMS Commission, and co-chair of the EMS Vision process that began in 1997*

Ramon W. Johnson, M.D. (Laguna Beach, CA)

*For providing superior sustained statewide leadership as a Chairman and member of the EMS Commission, and participant on EMS committees providing dedicated guidance in emergency care and EMS for Children*

Jeff L. Rubin (Elk Grove, CA)

*For providing sustained, superior statewide service as Chief of the Disaster Medical Services Division in the development of disaster medical services*

Nancy J. Steiner (Orangevale, CA)

*For providing superior, sustained statewide leadership as Chief of the EMS Personnel Division at EMSA, and facilitator EMS task forces and committees which provided exemplary leadership in EMT and paramedic personnel and training*

R. Steven Tharratt, M.D. (El Dorado Hills, CA)

*For providing sustained, superior statewide EMS medical leadership as Director of EMSA*

Kevin White (Citrus Heights, CA)

*For providing superior sustained statewide leadership as a representative on EMS task forces and committees providing leadership in EMT and paramedic personnel and training, as well as strong participation on the EMT2010 process implementation*

### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL:**

Debbie Bervel, M.D. (Highland, CA)

*For providing superior volunteer EMS medical leadership for Search and Rescue in San Bernardino County*

Layne Contreras (Commerce, CA)

*For providing superior EMS service and education for over 25 years in Los Angeles County*

David Huseman (San Jose, CA)

*For providing superior EMS service and education for over 30 years in Santa Clara County*

Chris Olson (San Diego, CA)

*For providing superior EMS service and innovation for over 35 years in San Diego County*

Frank Wesley Podboy (Alta Loma, CA)

*For providing superior volunteer EMS service leadership for Search and Rescue in San Bernardino County.*

Marie Podboy (Alta Loma, CA)

*For providing superior volunteer EMS service leadership for Search and Rescue in San Bernardino County*

## EMSA - 3

Paul Santos (San Diego, CA)

*For meritorious performance of rescue on 1 April 2010*

Michael Van Elgort (San Jose, CA)

*For service and leadership to advance pre-hospital cardiac care in Santa Clara County*

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD:**

Steven Drewniany (Sunnyvale, CA)

*For providing dedicated community EMS service to improve emergency cardiac care*

Anne Marie Jensen (San Diego, CA)

*For providing dedicated community service in organizing EMS social networking opportunities*

Kevin Riutzel (San Diego, CA)

*For providing dedicated community service in organizing public access defibrillation programs in San Diego County*

### **INTER-SERVICE EMS RECOGNITION MEDAL:**

Julia Abubo, R.N. (Costa Mesa, CA)

*For lifesaving rescue efforts on 18 June 2010 to remove a victim from an apartment fire*

Curtis Darnell (San Jose, CA)

*For service and leadership to integrate EMS into the public safety stakeholder community*

Daniel Humphreys (Mission Viejo, CA)

*For lifesaving rescue efforts on 8 August 2010 that resulted in the life of an infant being saved*

Consuelo Yokum (Campbell, CA)

*For volunteer service and leadership during the H1N1 pandemic emergency in Santa Clara County*

## **STATEWIDE EMS SYSTEM AWARDS (2009)**

### **EMS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR:**

Virginia Price Hastings (San Bernardino, CA)

*For dedication to statewide EMS systems and sustained, superior leadership on behalf of local EMS agencies*

### **EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR:**

James Pointer, M.D. (Novato, CA)

*For superior sustained statewide participation as an EMS Medical Director in both Alameda and San Francisco EMS agencies, participation for 20 years on the EMS Scope of Practice Committee of EMDAC and leadership in EMS research*

### **EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR:**

Heather Davis, MS (Los Angeles, CA)

*For exemplary service in emergency medical services (EMS) education*

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