

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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**CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES  
2018 CALIFORNIA EMS AWARD RECIPIENTS**

*Thirty-three (33) Californians will be honored for their heroic acts and extraordinary contributions to EMS on December 5<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco.*

SACRAMENTO - Dr. Howard Backer, Director of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), has announced the recipients of California Emergency Medical Services Awards for 2018. Initiated in 2007, the annual awards honor and recognize exceptional acts and service by individuals working or volunteering in California's emergency medical system.

EMS personnel are trained to provide stabilizing and lifesaving care. These EMS awards laud noteworthy or extraordinary acts, and outstanding service while working as EMS certified or licensed personnel, administrators, educators, volunteers or civilians within the EMS system.

"I am pleased to announce a select group of EMS professionals who exhibit excellence and exceptional service," said Director Backer. "These men and women epitomize the spirit of caring and commitment to quality healthcare that embodies these awards. They deserve official recognition for their contributions in making California's EMS system one of the best in the world."

Most of the awards will be presented during a luncheon ceremony following the regular meeting of the Commission on Emergency Medical Services on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel in San Francisco. In addition to the 33 awards presented in December, 27 Clinical Excellence Awards and Certificates of Commendation will be presented at the recipients' home stations and are not part of the formal ceremony in San Francisco.

The award ceremony is generously sponsored by Hospital Council of Northern & Central California, Live-Assist, Medic Ambulance, Bound Tree Medical, California Paramedics Foundation, Orion Labs, Z-Medica, California Fire Chiefs Association, and the California Ambulance Association. The event is held at no cost to the State of California. For additional information about the awards and the ceremony, visit [www.emsa.ca.gov/awards](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/awards).

Event registration will be available on November 1 at <https://caemsawards2018.eventbrite.com>.

*\*2018 California EMS Awards recipients – next page*

## 2018 California EMS Awards Recipients

### Statewide Awards

Name	City	Affiliation
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>		
James Pierson	Vallejo	Medic Ambulance Service
<b>EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>		
Aaron Miranda	Poway	Poway Fire Department
<b>MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>		
David Duncan, MD	McClellan	CAL FIRE/Reach/CALSTAR
<b>EMS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD</b>		
Bryan Cleaver	Santa Rosa	Coastal Valley EMS Agency

### Individual Awards

Name	City	Affiliation
<b>MEDAL OF VALOR</b>		
Jack Garden	West Hills	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
David Katz	Tarzana	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Thad Woodward, MD	Agoura Hills	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Patrick O'Neill	Los Angeles	Los Angeles County Fire Department
<b>EMS CROSS</b>		
Christina Nagle Gossner	Santa Rosa	AMR/Sonoma Life Support
<b>DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL</b>		
Michael Petrie	Salinas	Monterey County EMS Agency
<b>MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL</b>		
Nicole Androski	San Diego	American Medical Response- San Diego
Carlos Hawkins	San Leandro	Paramedics Plus Alameda
Henry Nguyen	San Leandro	Paramedics Plus Alameda
John Pita	San Leandro	Paramedics Plus Alameda
Steve Carroll	Oxnard	Ventura EMS Agency
Jeff Beigh	Roseville	Roseville Police Department
Kristina Douglas	Livermore	Paramedics Plus Alameda
Nathan DuVardo	Santa Rosa	AMR Sonoma County Division
Mason Kinnard	Livermore	Paramedics Plus Alameda
Heidi Nishimoto	Livermore	Paramedics Plus Alameda
<b>LIFESAVING MEDAL</b>		
Laurie Leonhardt		
Mark Evan Stevenson	Calabasas	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Steve Sullivan	Calabasas	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD</b>		
Ken Sexton	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Donnie Self	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service

<b>INTER-SERVICE EMS RECOGNITION AWARD</b>		
Mark Aldridge	Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
Jason Little	Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
David Edney	Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
Erick Gelhaus	Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Sheriff's Office
Matthew Floresca	Fremont	Fremont Police Department
<b>CIVILIAN AWARD FOR EMS</b>		
Chad and Chelsea Moore		
Jeff Perez		
<b>CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD (presented at recipients' home stations)</b>		
Bill Bullard	Graton	Graton Fire Protection District
Alexander Fair	Castro Valley	AMR/Sonoma Life Support
Mike Gabbert	Stockton	American Medical Response
Saul Gaytan	Stockton	American Medical Response
Ben Hedlund	Graton	Graton Fire Protection District
Leslie Mitsuoka	Rohnert Park	AMR/Sonoma Life Support
Zach Morrow	Graton	Graton Fire Protection District
Matthew Ramirez	Stockton	American Medical Response
Thomas Mayberry	Los Angeles	Los Angeles County EMS
Charles Miranda	Los Angeles	Los Angeles County EMS
Brice Stella	Los Angeles	Los Angeles County EMS
Thomas Bogdan	Long Beach	Los Angeles County EMS
Clint Hughes	Long Beach	Los Angeles County EMS
<b>CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION (presented at recipients' home stations)</b>		
Barry Hurd	Oakdale	Mountain Valley EMS Agency
James Metzger	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Manuel Martinez	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Steve Prater	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Mike Zapiain	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Scott Morgan	Bakersfield	Hall Ambulance Service
Chuck Pode	Camarillo	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Michael Rogers	Westlake	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Tui O. Wright	Calabasas	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Mark Hollinger	Agoura Hills	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Dustin LeBrun	Camarillo	CA Department of Parks and Recreation
Rocky Morton	Thousand Oaks	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Scott Sand	West Hills	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
David Stephens	Oak Park	Los Angeles County Fire Department

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