



# 2018 California EMS Awards

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremony  
December 5<sup>th</sup> – San Francisco, CA



# **In Memoriam**



**Richard Watson**

**1931-2018**



## MEDAL OF VALOR

*Recognizes an EMT for acts of personal valor or heroism which results in the saving of a life under extreme conditions and/or in extraordinary circumstances.*

*(left to right)*

David Katz, Tarzana, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Jack Garden, West Hills, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Dr. Thad Woodward, Agoura Hills, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Patrick O'Neill, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Fire Department

For their acts of bravery confronting dangerous weather conditions to reach four hikers stranded inside the Malibu Creek State Park during the peak of a record-breaking torrential rainstorm.





## **EMS CROSS**

*Recognizes a uniformed EMT who by act and deed represents the most outstanding achievement or accomplishment in EMS over an extended period of time.*

### **Christina Gossner**

*Santa Rosa*

*American Medical Response*

*Sonoma Life Support*

For over 25 years of advancing EMS in her local area in training, coordination of services, quality improvement, and direct patient care.







## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

*Recognizes an individual for distinguished service or achievement affecting statewide EMS over an extended period of time.*

### **Michael Petrie**

*Salinas*

*Monterey County EMS Agency*

For over 30 years advancing the field of EMS in the areas of emergency services, homeland security, fusion center operations, strategic planning, capability and threat assessment, mass casualty incident response planning on local and state levels, EMS financing, economics, and EMS system design.





## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL**

*Recognizes an individual for a meritorious act or service within EMS. This award also recognizes an EMT for an act that is above and beyond the call of duty in the course of a particular EMS emergency or event.*

### **Nicole Androski**

*San Diego*

*American Medical Response*

For jumping into immediate action and halting a moving vehicle in order to resuscitate an incapacitated driver displaying signs of a seizure.





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*left to right:*

**Henry Nguyen, John Pita, and Carlos Hawkins** (*not pictured*)

*San Leandro*

*Paramedics Plus Alameda*



For valiantly springing into action at the scene of a fiery wreck and risking their lives to pull the driver to safety from inside the vehicle engulfed in flames.





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### **Steve Carroll**

*Oxnard*

*Ventura County EMS Agency*

For more than 30 years of dedication, leadership, and excellence in providing care while serving as the EMS administrator, an EMT and paramedic in the County of Ventura.







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### **Jeff Beigh**

*Roseville*

*Roseville Police Department*

For his dedication to public safety through more than ten years of service as a first responder and passionate commitment to advancement in the areas of teamwork, training, and tactical response.





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### **Nathan DuVardo**

*Santa Rosa*

*American Medical Response*

*Sonoma County Division*

For his selfless leadership and dedication to preserving the lives of nearly 200 elderly care facility residents located in Sonoma County near the heart of the 2017 Tubbs Fire.





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*left to right: Kristina Douglas, Mason Kinnard, Heidi Nishimoto*

*Livermore*

*Paramedics Plus Alameda*

For fearlessly rising to the aid of a fellow public servant trying to wrestle control of an extremely violent assailant they had just rescued from an Oakland neighborhood vehicle collision.





## **LIFESAVING MEDAL**

*Recognizes an EMS provider who, while in an off-duty or volunteer capacity, makes an extremely noteworthy contribution to efforts that result in the saving of a life.*

### **Laurie Leonhardt**

*Greenfield*

*Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula*

For the bravery and valor that she exhibited while stopping to pull a man from a burning vehicle, saving his life following an accident along Highway 101.







## **LIFESAVING MEDAL**

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## **Mark Evan Stevenson**

*Calabasas*

*Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department*

For his prudent leadership and swift response while coming to the aid of an unresponsive car accident victim.





## **LIFESAVING MEDAL**

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**Steve Sullivan**

*Calabasas*

*Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department*

For his steadfast focus and firm commitment to lifesaving care both in the line of duty and as a civilian regardless of the circumstances.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

*Recognizes an EMT who has made an outstanding commitment to non-patient care aspects of a community's EMS system. Special emphasis is on EMS public information, education, and relations.*



*left to right:*  
**Ken Sexton and Donnie Self**

*Bakersfield  
Hall Ambulance Service*



For developing a close relationship with the senior citizens of the remote desert community of Boron and initiating an annual BBQ luncheon fundraiser to benefit their senior center for the past ten years.



## INTER-SERVICE EMS RECOGNITION MEDAL

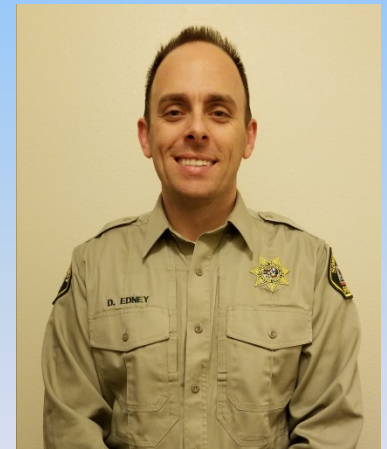
*Recognizes outstanding heroism, extraordinary service, or achievement of non-EMTs (police officers, firefighters, lifeguards, dispatchers, and other public or private safety officers) for outstanding or exceptional support of a particular EMS emergency, event or operation.*

*left to right:*

**Mark Aldridge, Jason Little, Erick Gelhaus, David Edney**

*Santa Rosa*

*Sonoma County Sheriff's Office*



For quickly responding to a cardiac arrest victim and performing lifesaving CPR for a prolonged amount of time.





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

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### **Matthew Floresca**

*Fremont*

*Fremont Police Department*

For saving the lives of two individuals at different times on the same day by administering CPR and using an AED.





## **CIVILIAN AWARD FOR EMS**

*Recognizes a civilian (non-certified, non-health care provider) who provides extraordinary service during the course of an EMS emergency. Awards are relatively based upon the degree of patient outcome, extreme conditions, or extraordinary circumstances.*

### **Chad and Chelsea Moore**

*Morro Bay, California*

For coming to the aid of an injured woman who plunged off a cliff in her car and survived seven days on the beach.







## **CIVILIAN AWARD FOR EMS**

*Recognizes a civilian (non-certified, non-health care provider) who provides extraordinary service during the course of an EMS emergency. Awards are relatively based upon the degree of patient outcome, extreme conditions, or extraordinary circumstances.*

Jeff Perez  
Long Beach

For rescuing two people and a dog in sinking truck.





## CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Recognizes an EMT who provides noteworthy patient care and treatment during the course of their duties.*

For quickly responding to a cardiac arrest victim and performing lifesaving CPR for a prolonged amount of time.

Bill Bullard, Graton, Graton Fire Protection District  
Alexander Fair, Castro Valley, AMR/Sonoma Life Support  
Ben Hedlund, Graton, Graton Fire Protection District  
Leslie Mitsuoka, Rohnert Park, AMR/Sonoma Life Support  
Zach Morrow, Graton, Graton Fire Protection District

While clearing a hospital, the crew came upon an unwitnessed cardiac arrest victim, resuscitated the patient and was successful in obtaining a return-of-spontaneous-circulation. The patient, a physician of the hospital, was alert and talking shortly after the incident, making a full recovery.

Mike Gabbert, Stockton, American Medical Response  
Andrew Long, Stockton, American Medical Response  
Saul Gaytan, Stockton, American Medical Response  
Matthew Ramirez, Stockton, American Medical Response



## CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Recognizes an EMT who provides noteworthy patient care and treatment during the course of their duties.*

While performing a complicated air rescue, the crew battled inclement weather alongside steep terrain of an icy mountain to treat and rescue a patient with extensive injuries in mid-air.

Thomas Mayberry, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Charles Miranda, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Brice Stella, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Thomas Bogdan, Long Beach, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Clint Hughes, Long Beach, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department



## CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

As the paramedic manager at Oak Valley Hospital District Ambulance, he is recognized for his professionalism and compassion for the employees and patients alike.

Barry Hurd, Oakdale, Oak Valley Hospital District Ambulance

For developing a close relationship with the senior citizens of the remote desert community of Boron by hosting an annual BBQ luncheon fundraiser to benefit their senior center.

James Metzger, Bakersfield, Hall Ambulance  
Manual Martinez, Bakersfield, Hall Ambulance  
Steve Prater, Bakersfield, Hall Ambulance  
Mike Zapiain, Bakersfield, Hall Ambulance  
Scott Morgan, Bakersfield, Hall Ambulance



## CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

For working as a team with complicated and dangerous weather conditions to reach four hikers stranded inside the Malibu Creek State Park during the peak of a record-breaking torrential rainstorm.

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, California 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





## EMT OF THE YEAR AWARD

*Honors an EMT-I, EMT-II or EMT-Paramedic, who is exemplary in his/her quality of patient care and/or dedication to their community. Any statewide certified EMT-I or EMT-II, and any licensed EMT-Paramedic is eligible.*

### James Pierson

*Vallejo*

*Medic Ambulance Service*

For demonstrating exemplary dedication to improving the EMS field through his leadership at his family's private ambulance business, local community paramedicine project and trauma system, local and statewide professional organizations, and with direct patient care.





## **EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

*Honors an EMS educator who excels as a teacher or who has made a significant contribution to the EMS education program in the State. Active EMS educators or EMS training officers are eligible.*



### **Aaron Miranda**

*Murrieta*

*Poway Fire Department and  
Airlink USMX*

For his meticulous and comprehensive training efforts in the fire service, for national disaster response units and abroad.



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

*Honors a physician who serves or has served the EMS system by providing medical direction, on-line or off-line, and who has served with distinction. A physician licensed in California who serves or has served meritoriously as an EMS physician supervisor or as an on-line medical control physician and who has made a special contribution through such activities as systems development, continuing education, quality assurance, medical community liaison, etc.*

**David Duncan, MD, FAAEM**

*McClellan*

*CAL FIRE/Reach/CALSTAR*

For expertly supporting air and ground emergency medical personnel with medical direction and leading statewide and national efforts in research, education, and medical device advancements.





## **EMS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

*Honors an EMS system administrator who has distinguished him or her self through noteworthy contribution to a local, regional, or to the statewide EMS system. Local EMS administrators (supervisory operations, planning, or management personnel) in California are eligible.*

### **Bryan Cleaver**

*Santa Rosa*

*Coastal Valley EMS Agency*

For his leadership on initiatives shaping EMS in California in developing model scope of practice guidelines for air ambulance paramedics and critical care transport paramedics, standardizing the process and practice of pre-hospital discipline, encouraging the use of a statewide CARES registry for cardiac arrest patient data.





# California EMS Awards



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# Congratulations to the 2018 California EMS Award Recipients

*for their dedication and commitment to  
the communities they serve*



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