

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES 2014 CALIFORNIA EMS AWARDS

*Twenty-four (24) Californians will be honored for their heroic acts and extraordinary contributions to EMS on December 3<sup>rd</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 (EMS) Awards for 2014. Launched 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 are intended 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. The award period represents activities from September 7, 2013 through September 15, 2014 for cumulative service.

"I am pleased to announce a select group of EMS professionals who are being honored for their exhibited professional excellence and exceptional service," said Director Backer. "These men and women epitomize the spirit and commitment to quality that embody these awards and 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 3<sup>rd</sup> in San Francisco at the Marines' Memorial Hotel. Clinical Excellence Awards will be presented at the recipients' home stations.

The award ceremony is sponsored by Hospital Council of Northern & Central California, American Medical Response, Life-Assist, California Professional Firefighters, Bound Tree Medical, California Ambulance Association, California Fire Chiefs Association and Z-MEDICA. The event will be held at no cost to the State. For information about the awards and the ceremony, visit [www.emsa.ca.gov/awards](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/awards). List of recipients below.

**ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD:**

Dan Burch – French Camp, San Joaquin County EMS Agency

For more than 17 years of exceptional service as an EMS administrator and statewide EMS leadership in EMS legislation and regulation formation and advocacy.

**EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR:**

Eric Lewis – Modesto, PHI Air Medical

For exceptional educational leadership and tireless advocacy for professional EMS training throughout California.

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

Dr. Ken Miller – Irvine, Orange County Fire Authority

For lifelong passion for innovation in healthcare, quality, medical direction, leadership and significant EMS contributions to the medicine and science of EMS in California and nationally.

**EMT OF THE YEAR:**

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez – Pomona, California State Assembly

For dedication to the EMS profession and for advocating for public policy that benefits the field in the California State Assembly.

**CIVILIAN AWARD:**

David Martinez – Del Mar, Del Mar Races

For saving the life of a child on August 6, 2014.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD:**

Tracy Eby – San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo EMS Agency

For exceptional efforts and dedication in EMS service, training and volunteerism.

Travis Hoberecht – San Diego, American Medical Response

For exceptional efforts and dedication to educate individuals in his community in compression-only CPR and car seat safety.

Peter Martinez – Commerce, Los Angeles County Fire Department

For sustained, dedicated service to educating individuals in his community in disaster preparedness, CPR and first aid.

Lauri McFadden – Santa Rosa, American Medical Response

For sustained, dedicated service to educating students in her community in CPR and volunteering her time to multiple community service groups.

Jessica Otter – San Luis Obispo, San Luis Ambulance

For exceptional efforts and dedication in EMS service, training and volunteerism.

Kris Strommen – San Luis Obispo, San Luis Ambulance

For exceptional efforts and dedication in EMS service, training and volunteerism.

Jack Walsh – San Leandro, Keeping Babies Safe

For sustained, dedicated efforts to advocate for baby and child safety standards nationally and in California.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:**

Donald Campbell – Turlock, Mercy Air

For more than 30 years of dedicated and sustained EMS service demonstrating a strong passion for training, statewide leadership, and advocacy for the air ambulance community. (*Posthumous*)

Ginger Ochs – San Diego, San Diego Fire Department

For more than 30 years of dedicated and sustained EMS service demonstrating a strong passion for training, quality improvement and development of local EMS agency policies.

Lew Stone – Sacramento, California Professional Firefighters

For more than 30 years of dedicated and sustained EMS service demonstrating unique insight and knowledge of California’s EMS issues, statewide leadership and representation of public safety personnel.

**INTER-SERVICE EMS RECOGNITION AWARD:**

Carlos Rodriguez – Hollister, Hollister Police Department

For heroically entering a chaotic crime scene before it had been secured to render first aid to two bleeding gunshot victims, saving their lives.

**LIFESAVING AWARD:**

Daniel Martinez – Ceres, American Medical Response

For heroically saving the lives of a couple whose vehicle had crashed into an irrigation canal on August 28, 2014.

**MEDAL OF VALOR:**

Ben Carlson – Newport Beach, Newport Beach Fire Department Lifeguards

For sacrificing himself to save a distressed swimmer in July 2014. (*Posthumous*)

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD:**

Matthew Hayes – Santa Rosa, American Medical Response

For heroically entering a burning vehicle to extricate the passenger before the vehicle became fully engulfed in flames in November 2013.

Richard Murphy – Paradise, Butte County EMS

For heroically entering an unsecured active shooter scene to locate, stabilize, and evacuate a gunshot victim in November 2013.

Michael Pitassi – Escalon, Escalon Community Ambulance

For sustained, dedicated leadership of Escalon Community Ambulance and advocacy of quality patient care.

Gabe Robinson – Carlsbad, American Medical Response

For heroically entering an unsecured active shooter scene to stabilize and evacuate three gunshot victims in October 2013.

Chip Schuenemeyer – Magalia, Butte County EMS

For heroically entering an unsecured active shooter scene to locate, stabilize, and evacuate a gunshot victim in November 2013.

Brad Silvestro – Santa Rosa, American Medical Response  
For heroically entering a burning vehicle to extricate the passenger before the vehicle became fully engulfed in flames in November 2013.

**CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD:**

Clinical Excellence Awards will be presented at the recipients' home stations, not at the EMS Awards Ceremony in San Francisco:

Adrianna Beal – Rohnert Park, Graton Casino EMS  
For excellent patient care to an individual suffering cardiac arrest in August 2014.

David Brown – Encinitas, Encinitas Lifeguard Agency  
For excellent patient care to two unconscious swimmers in May 2014.

Paul Chapman – Encinitas, Encinitas Lifeguard Agency  
For excellent patient care to two unconscious swimmers in May 2014.

Kris Fullmore – Durham, Westside Ambulance Association  
For excellent patient care to victims of the Orland Bus Crash in April 2014.

Larry Giles – Encinitas, Encinitas Lifeguard Agency  
For excellent patient care to two unconscious swimmers in May 2014.

Vanessa Mann – Rohnert Park, Graton Casino EMS  
For excellent patient care to an individual suffering cardiac arrest in August 2014.

Leslie Mitsuoka – Santa Rosa, American Medical Response  
For excellent patient care to an individual suffering cardiac arrest in August 2014.

Sean Rhodes – Rohnert Park, Graton Casino EMS  
For excellent patient care to an individual suffering cardiac arrest in August 2014.

Michael Staggs – Cottonwood, Westside Ambulance Association  
For excellent patient care to victims of the Orland Bus Crash in April 2014.

Jonathon Strickland – Encinitas, Encinitas Lifeguard Agency  
For excellent patient care to two unconscious swimmers in May 2014.

Derek Sullivan – Santa Rosa, American Medical Response  
For excellent patient care to an individual suffering cardiac arrest in August 2014.

Officer Daniel Templeton, Elk Grove, Elk Grove Police Department  
For excellent patient care to a woman going into labor on the side of the road in August 2014.

Robert Veria – Encinitas, Encinitas Lifeguard Agency  
For excellent patient care to two unconscious swimmers in May 2014.

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