

2013

California
 **EMS**
Awards

The California Emergency Medical Services Awards were created to honor exceptional acts and services by EMS certified or licensed personnel, administrators, trainers, or volunteers.

The 2013 California Emergency Medical Services Awards are being presented December 4, 2013 at the Marines' Memorial Club and Hotel in San Francisco. The ceremony is hosted by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority and sponsored by:

- *American Medical Response*
- *Bound Tree Medical*
- *Paramedics Plus*
- *California Ambulance Association*
- *California Fire Chiefs Association*
- *San Francisco Paramedic Association*

Presenters:

Howard Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP, Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority

Jane Smith, Chair of the Commission on Emergency Medical Services

Emcee: Daniel R. Smiley, Chief Deputy Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority

Award recipients are nominated by their colleagues and are selected by a committee representing EMS system stakeholders:

Dan Burch, President, Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association

Dr. Greg Gilbert, President, Emergency Medical Directors Association of California

Chief Demetrious N. Shaffer, President of the California Fire Chiefs Association

June Iljana, Executive Director, California Ambulance Association

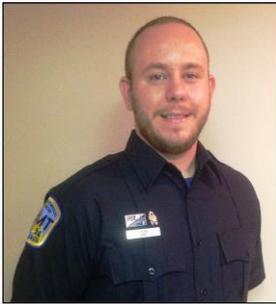
Art Hsieh, California Rescue Paramedic Association

Daniel R. Smiley, Chief Deputy Director, Emergency Medical Services Authority

Robin R Robinson, EMS Awards Coordinator

LIFE SAVING AWARD

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



Sean Diemert - Martinez, ProTransport-1, EMT
While off duty on November 12, 2012, EMT Diemert witnessed an auto collision that resulted in the vehicle catching fire and rendering the driver unresponsive and injured. Diemert, with the assistance of two bystanders, sprang into action, pulling the driver from the burning vehicle. Diemert stabilized the patient until Contra Costa Fire responders arrived and the patient was resuscitated.



CIVILIAN AWARD

The Civilian Award 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.



Albert Alvarez (Seaside, CA) is being honored for saving a victim's life on April 10, 2013. Albert was on the scene when a 76 year-old man collapsed and was not breathing. He quickly administered CPR until paramedics arrived on the scene. Albert's quick thinking and responsiveness played a tremendous part in saving the life of the patient.



Erik Schorken (San Leandro, CA) is being honored for his heroic actions as part of a group of civilians who assisted in life-saving efforts to rescue a family on June 16, 2013. Erik made his way towards the drowning victims, used a knife to break the window open, and freed the family from the water-logged car. He assisted multiple members of the family swim back to shore.



Andrew Goodwin (San Leandro, CA) is being honored for his heroic actions as part of a group of civilians who assisted in life-saving efforts to rescue a family on June 16, 2013. He was in the water, alongside the paramedic, helping pull the victims out of the water as they started coming to shore. Andrew also escorted them to the ambulance.



Tracey McCormick (Alameda, CA) is being honored for her heroic actions as part of a group of civilians who assisted in life-saving efforts to rescue a family on June 16, 2013. As a car was slowly submerging into the water with a family of four inside, Tracey was the first to jump into the water and swim towards the family to break them free. With the assistance of other members of this heroic team, Tracey helped bring the family to shore.

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.



Dr. Marc Eckstein - Los Angeles, Los Angeles Fire Dept., Medical Director

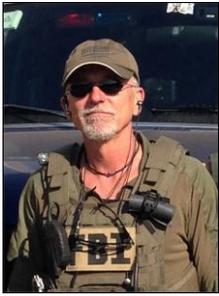
Dr. Eckstein is being recognized for providing exceptional leadership and service to the Los Angeles medical community. Dr. Eckstein was influential in coordinating and providing medical oversight for implementation of the Los Angeles AED Public Access Program and continues to contribute to state and national pre-hospital policy formulation.



William "Bill" Caldera - Sonora, Tuolumne County LEMSA, Operations Manager

Bill Caldera is being recognized for outstanding service and leadership during the Rim Fire on August 17, 2013. Recognizing the danger of the fire, Caldera instinctively directed his medics to evacuate Groveland residents, provide firefighter rehabilitation and

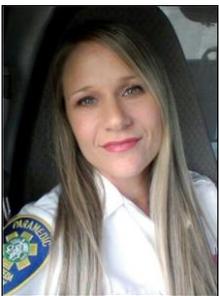
verify credentials of responding volunteer personnel.



Jim Morrissey - San Leandro, Alameda County LEMSA, Supervising Prehospital Care Coordinator

Jim Morrissey is being recognized for 30 years of sustained, dedicated EMS service in the San Francisco area. Morrissey has taught classes in emergency medicine, tactical medicine, wilderness rescue and technical rope rescue in over 25 countries. A recognized subject matter expert, Morrissey advises the FBI

Hostage Rescue Team and deploys with FBI SWAT Team members, providing medical care when necessary.



Rebecca Foster - San Leandro, Paramedics Plus, Paramedic

Rebecca Foster is being recognized for heroic action while participating in the rescue of a family trapped in their sinking automobile on June 16, 2013. Placing herself in danger, Foster negotiated the rocky shore, entered water containing broken glass and gasoline, and pulled passengers from their sinking vehicle just before it submerged.



Michael Jacobs - San Leandro, Alameda County LEMSA, Cardiovascular Program Manager

Michael Jacobs is being recognized for outstanding efforts involving the improvement of cardiac arrest survivability in the hospital and pre-hospital setting. Jacobs worked with 13 ED Receiving Centers, over 1,000 EMS providers and the American Heart Association to develop cardiac arrest protocols which have

dramatically increased patient survivability rates in Alameda County.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

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.





Jym Bridger – El Cajon, Heartland Fire Rescue,
Firefighter/Paramedic

With over 15 years of experience in EMS as a firefighter/paramedic with Heartland Fire Rescue and as a paramedic for AMR San Diego, Bridger is a consummate professional who embodies what a paramedic should be: committed and compassionate. In his community, Bridger initiated a program that provided bicycle helmets to local children. He also participates in instruction and preceptorship for interns. Additionally, he chairs the annual October Stash charity drive which helps underserved local children and he manages the AED program for San Diego.



Rich Porcelli – San Francisco, South San Francisco Fire Dept., EMS
Division Captain

Each year, 795,000 strokes occur and approximately half of these victims do not call 9-1-1, resulting in poor rehabilitation outcomes. In order to change these results, Rich Porcelli, an active member of the Pacific Stroke Association's Annual Stroke Day, assisted in coordinating efforts with firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, doctors, nurses and other clinicians to distribute 11,000 stroke information cards at 20 BART and Cal Train stations in five counties on the morning of May 7, 2013. This successful endeavor resulted in heightened public education and increased awareness and surpassed 2012's outreach campaign.



Ennis Jackson – Carlsbad, AMR San Diego, Paramedic

Ennis Jackson has not let a personal tragedy prevent him from becoming a staunch advocate to teenagers by bringing his heartfelt and powerful message about how the perils of drugs, alcohol and distracted driving can result in disastrous outcomes. After a terrible situation that resulted in the death of his 14 year old daughter, Jackson created *"Call Me Before You Need 9-1-1."* In 2012, Jackson spoke to more than 6,000 students and in the past 20 years he has shared his story with more than 400,000 students – and he performs these duties gratis. Jackson has been an EMT-P for more than 21 years and has served as a Field Training Officer.



Walter Parton – Merced, Riggs Ambulance Service, EMT-P
 Walter Parton has been with Riggs Ambulance for over 28 years and is one of the most recognized EMS professionals in his home town of Dos Palos. His career began in 1978 as an ambulance attendant volunteer while working for the Dos Palos Police Department and he quickly realized that residents preferred seeing him as an ambulance attendant at their door. Parton is currently a field paramedic and the Community Liaison of West Merced County. He attends all Dos Palos HS football games, fairs, parades and special events in his community as a stand by medic. Parton was a recipient of the California Ambulance Association’s Star of Life Award in 2011.



Chana Alexander – Lancaster, American Medical Response, Paramedic

Hands-Only CPR which requires no mouth- to-mouth contact as standard resuscitation efforts have in the past has gained popularity in recent years. In four months, Alexander trained over 1,000 residents of the Antelope Valley in this vital life-saving technique. Once a week she volunteers at Poncitlan Square in Palmdale to teach this technique. Alexander’s goal is to share this important information with every resident (well over 155,000 people) in the Antelope Valley.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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



Cathy Chidester - Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County EMS Agency, Director

Cathy Chidester is being honored for more than 30 years of dedicated and sustained EMS service demonstrating a strong passion for training, teamwork, patient advocacy, and statewide leadership. Since 2006 she has served as the Director, LA County EMS Agency and oversees the daily operations of the largest multi-jurisdictional EMS system in the nation.



Cynthia Frankel - San Leandro, Alameda County EMS Agency, Disaster & EMSC Coordinator

Cynthia Frankel is being honored for her superior sustained statewide leadership, advocacy, and education in improving EMS for Children. With over 23 years in the EMSC community, Frankel has facilitated annual EMSC state conferences and regional conferences for pediatric disaster preparedness and response. She is co-chair of the California Neonatal Pediatric Disaster Coalition and has supported multidisciplinary grass roots coalition building to support local preparedness of neonatal and pediatric disaster and medical surge linking novice to expert.



Dave Austin - Irwindale, AMR West, Director of Administration
Dave Austin is being honored for his superior sustained statewide EMS service. With more than 37 years of prehospital experience, Austin's institutional knowledge and personal experience have proven invaluable during his service on numerous boards and commissions addressing local and state EMS public policy.

Austin's extensive committee and policy work have permitted him to quickly and effectively address complicated issues and generate consensus amongst stakeholders all while keeping the best interest of the patient in mind.



Christopher Van Gorder, FACHE - San Diego, Scripps Health, President & CEO

Christopher Van Gorder is being honored for his superior sustained statewide leadership as a member of the California Commission on EMS and for exceptional achievement and exemplary leadership in disaster medical response. Van Gorder and the SCRIPPS team developed the premier specialized California Medical Assistance Team (CAL-MAT) and Hospital Administrative Support Unit (HASU) that serves as the model for health systems in California and the nation and provides the cornerstone for the State's Mobile Medical Assets Program. Van Gorder was also on the original development team of the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS), of which is used nationally and internationally.

EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

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.



Les Hugie - Buellton, AMR Santa Barbara, Clinical Manager

Les Hugie is being honored for his tireless advocacy of EMS education, training and professionalism California. Hugie is committed to facilitating and participating in cooperative relationships amongst all prehospital agencies to provide education that fosters quality patient care for all of our

communities. With his unique “Kudos Bar” motivational style and over 23 years of experience, Hugie was instrumental in educating and training Santa Barbara County paramedics on their new STEMI system and Hands Only CPR program.



EMT OF THE YEAR

Honors an EMT-I, EMT-II and EMT-Paramedic, each of whom 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.

Jeremiah Glass - Chico, Enloe Hospital/West Side Ambulance, Paramedic



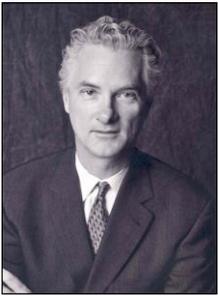
Jeremiah Glass is being honored for his dedication to excellent patient care, compassion, public and professional service. Stemming from his devotion to public service, Glass has volunteered thousands of off-hours to underserved communities across the globe, declined pay raises and promotions out of concern for the state’s flagging economy, and has not had a sick day in over five years. Glass

travelled to Honduras in 2011, serving as the team’s sole paramedic on a project converting a school into a health clinic.



MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

Honors 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.



Karl Sporer (San Leandro, CA)

Alameda County EMS Agency, Medical Director

Dr. Sporer is honored for his passion, leadership and knowledge exemplified in his current role as Medical Director of Alameda County EMS Agency. Using his near three decades of experience, Dr. Sporer has effectively implemented cutting edge technology and current QA/QI best practices in Alameda County, to include the

addition of a Medical Priority Dispatch System, Electronic Patient Care Record System and Chest Compression Systems. Most recently he has worked to develop cervical spine restriction guidelines with the goal of decreasing the use of the traditional cervical collar and hard board.



ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

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.



Ross Elliott - Bakersfield, Kern County EMS Agency, Director

Ross Elliott is being honored for his efforts in leveraging technology to allow more EMS Administrators to participate in statewide meetings when travel budgets were being slashed and for his experience in emergency management, preparedness and strategic planning. A respected member of EMSAAC, Elliott has

over 10 years of experience as an EMS Administrator as well as experience as a seasonal firefighter, city planner, senior deputy county administrator and director of information technology.



CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS (Presented at the recipients' home stations)

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

Doug Butler (Santa Rosa)

Romeo Pardilla (Stockton)

Bull Bullard (Forestville)

Jeremy Janes (Santa Rosa)

Kyler Walker (Graton)

Shepley Schroth-Cary (Sebastopol)

Diane Mibach (Corte Madera)

Paul Fleckenstein (Guerneville)

Michael Hunt (Rohnert Park)

Marcos Barros (Santa Rosa)

Jacob Sheffer (Santa Rosa)

Brian Trotter (Vacaville)

Jared Eckle (Oakdale)

Robert Shelp (Oakdale)

Jesus Sigala (Modesto)

Mike Satariano (Riverbank)

Jeremy Smith (Riverbank)

Doug Falle (Riverbank)

Kyle Ramirez (Milpitas)

William Hiller (Milpitas)

Sadie Eirich (Merced)

Eduardo Salazar (Sacramento)

Anthony Lawrence (San Francisco)

Josh Menzies (Santa Rosa)

Elias Nasser (San Bruno)

Vinh Nguyen (Merced)

Conrad Arenas (San Francisco)

Scot Daniels (San Rafael)

Brian White (Bakersfield)

Kent Frazier (Bakersfield)

Brian McChristian (Bakersfield)

Shawn Crocker (Bakersfield)

Sam Fyles (San Francisco)

Nolan Hamblen (Berkeley)

Christopher Kopitzke (Berkeley)

Jonathan Knauf (Escondido)

Chiyon Speakman (Vallejo)

Markus Lincoln (Vallejo)

Michael Spath (Sunnyvale)

Nichole Spencer (San Leandro)

Cody Haney (Newport Beach)

Members of the California Commission on Emergency Medical Services

Members Appointed by the Governor

Member	Representing
Linda Broyles, RN, MSN	California Emergency Nurses Association
Dan Burch	EMS Administrators Association of California
Steven Drowniany, EMT-P	California Peace Officers Association
Aaron Hamilton	Public Member
Mark Hartwig, EMT-P	California Fire Chiefs Association
Richard O. Johnson, MD, MPH	California Conference of Local Health Officers
David Rose, EMT-P	City/County or Special District Fire Protection/ California Professional Firefighters
Eric Rudnick, MD, FACEP, FAAEM	EMS Medical Directors Association of California
Kathleen Stevenson, RN, BSN	California Healthcare Association
Lewis Stone	California State Firemen's Association
Joy Stovell, EMT-P	Public Member - Rural
Dave Teter, Battalion Chief, EMT-P	Department of Forestry and Fire Protection/ California Professional Firefighters

Members Appointed by the Senate Rules Committee

Member	Representing
Ruth Haskins, MD	California Medical Association
Alexis F. Lieser, MD	California Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians
Jane Smith, MA, NREMT-P	California Rescue and Paramedic Association

Members Appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly

Member	Representing
Jaison Chand, EMT-P, RN, BSN	California Ambulance Association
Kristi L. Koenig, MD, FACEP, FIFEM	Emergency Department Physician
Daniel Margulies, MD	California Chapter, American College of Surgeons

The 2013 EMS Awards Ceremony luncheon was made possible by the generous participation of the San Francisco Paramedics Association.

Special thanks to American Medical Response, Bound Tree Medical, Paramedics Plus, California Ambulance Association and California Fire Chiefs Association who graciously provided lunch for all of the award recipients.

