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News Release

Charleston County Hires New Director of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Charleston County Government named Sumter native, David Abrams, as the new EMS Director, effective March 4. Abrams started his career with Charleston County as an EMT in 1995 and returns with more than 20 years of experience in the paramedic and health care fields.

"Our objectives moving forward are to continue with our partnerships in the local medical community and continue to deliver high quality service to the citizens," said Abrams. "My career has come full circle and I'm ready to serve the people of Charleston County and work with the amazing crews at EMS."

Abrams was on a short list of candidates following a national search for a new director. He most recently served as the manager of Meducare at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). During the last two decades, Abrams started his own company, Family Medical Transport, earned a law degree from Mercer University and was director of Procarent, an ambulance service based in Louisville, Ky., which averaged 6,000 calls a month as the primary 9-1-1 transport service in two counties.

"We are pleased to bring Mr. Abrams on board as our new EMS Director," said Charleston County Administrator Keith Bustraan. "His experience and firsthand knowledge of the local area is crucial to the position. The tri-county population is growing and Mr. Abrams will help make sure EMS is prepared for the challenge."

The Charleston County Emergency Medical Service Department (CCEMS) provides medical care and transportation to hospital emergency departments for citizens and visitors to Charleston County. CCEMS also provides field emergency medical support services which require specialized training and equipment; support to hazardous materials response teams and hazardous materials clean-up operations throughout the county and assistance to area law enforcement agencies through the nationally recognized Special Weapons and Tactics Medic program.

Responsibilities

- Provide emergency lifesaving care to people who are seriously ill or injured
- Transport patients to local hospital emergency departments
- Operate ambulances and Quick Response Vehicles to support these services
- Provide a variety of educational programs to the public on many safety issues

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- Prepared by the Public Information Office -



