



Charleston County News Release

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See photo: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/newsimages/ems-award-2010.htm>

Charleston County Receives 2010 National Paid EMS Service of the Year Award

[Charleston County Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\)](#) has been awarded the 2010 National Paid EMS Service of the Year award. This honor is awarded by Cygnus Communications, owners of EMS Magazine, and is given to one paid EMS system in the U.S. each year.

Charleston County Council will formally announce the award and congratulate staff during its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

Charleston County EMS was chosen based on various criteria such as its innovation in pre-hospital care, program upgrades, the high certification level of its personnel, worker safety and well-being, education and training program, involvement in the medical community, illness and injury prevention project and public education initiatives, among other reasons.

"I've always known that we, as a community, were blessed to have such talented people in the EMS system," said Don Lundy, Director of Charleston County EMS. "That team effort with our medical staff includes dispatchers, first responders, our medical directors, hospital staff, plus all of the supportive staff, mechanics, procurement and billing. Everyone makes it a true team effort."

Lundy received the award in person at the annual EMS Expo that was held in Dallas, TX Sept. 27-30. The honor included his travel costs and a check to the service for \$1,000. In addition, the service will be highlighted in a future publication of EMS Magazine.

Charleston County EMS has been recognized for a variety of accomplishments, including:

- South Carolina Large EMS System of the Year in 2002
- Public Information and Education Resource (PIER) award in 2002
- 2005 Regional Cooperation award presented by the South Carolina Association of Counties for assisting in a consortium to improve cardiac care
- First place EMS competition team for 2002 and 2004, including the first all-female team to win the award
- EMS Excellence Award presented by Zoll Corporation in 2006

Charleston County EMS was established by County Council in 1973 as the first County-wide EMS service in the State of South Carolina. It serves every municipality in the County with 14 ambulances available around-the-clock at substations throughout the County. Charleston County EMS responded to 49,310 requests for assistance in 2009.

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for more information on Charleston County EMS, and for news and up-to-date information relating to all Charleston County Government services.