



NEWS RELEASE

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ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMS RECIPIENT OF 2013 OUTSTANDING AGENCY AWARD

Orange, VA – Orange County is pleased to announce its receipt of the Rappahannock Emergency Medical Services (REMS) Council Award for Outstanding EMS Agency of the Year at the REMS Yearly Banquet, held on May 30, 2013.

Each year the REMS Council selects the EMS agency that exemplifies outstanding professionalism and service to its community; whose high level of patient care is evident by innovative training, community awareness, preventive health programs, public relations efforts and participation in local, regional and statewide EMS systems to be acknowledged as the Outstanding EMS Agency of the Year.

Orange County is being recognized for its restructured and revolutionized way of educating and updating its EMS providers and community partners. The Department of Fire and EMS has created interactive video training/educational opportunities on various topics such as difficult airways. These videos are shared with other providers and partners in the region. The Department has also worked diligently to have progressive medical and patient care protocols. Orange County is the first agency in the region to adopt evidence-based patient care protocols and is at the leading edge of emerging trends in national patient care. Further, Orange County remains very active in the regional EMS system and participates in several relevant committees.

Orange County Fire and EMS Chief John Harkness stated, "It's truly an honor to receive this award. Special thanks to Chief Joyce and Firefighter Bullock for their tireless work on the Department's videos projects. Thanks to the Officers of the Department for their leadership and our Volunteer Fire and EMS partners who we work so closely with. We feel that most importantly, the Department received this award because of the high quality of care provided by the members of the Department of Fire and EMS."

For more information on the County's award for Outstanding EMS Agency, please contact John Harkness, Orange County Fire and EMS Chief, at (540) 672-7044.

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