



# OFFICE OF PUBLIC SERVICES: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To preserve life, improve health, and promote safety through clinically superior and compassionate pre-hospital care and life safety education for citizens and visitors of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

### Quality of Life

- Partnered with local hospitals and medical providers to improve heart attack outcomes and develop a system of care that exceeds national standards.
- Received a three-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services for the third time.
- Operated a Tactical Medical Program to provide medical support to the Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) unit, allowing specially trained paramedics to more quickly reach victims of violent incidents.
- Provided low-cost Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to organizations and businesses throughout the County. Community AEDs improve survivability of sudden cardiac arrest.
- Waived EMS fees for uninsured or underinsured veterans.
- Conducted 160 public education events.
- Engaged community partners and pursued funding for the development of a community paramedic program.

## Contact Us

(850) 606-2100  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS

## PRESERVING LIFE. IMPROVING HEALTH. PROMOTING SAFETY.

- After celebrating 12 years of dedicated service to the community and responding to more than 400,000 calls for service, Leon County's nationally recognized Emergency Medical Services (EMS) continues to lead the industry in setting the standard for emergency care.
- With over 300,000 people dying from sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States before reaching a hospital, Leon County strives to continuously improve the chances of survival by advocating for the placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training through its Heart Ready initiative. Through these efforts, over 1,700 citizens were trained in CPR and AED use. Also, there are 830 public access AEDs now in place throughout the community because of EMS.
  - » For the sixth year, EMS hosted Press the Chest, a community-wide CPR and AED training event held at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. EMS and community partners trained more than 600 citizens in CPR and AED as one class.
  - » Leon County's cardiac survival rate of 33% continues to far exceed the national average of 7%.
- Leon County is committed to educating the community on the importance of safety preparedness. EMS hosted several events during the year, including:
  - » Child Passenger Safety Seat Program - conducted over 100 child safety seat checkpoints, inspections, and installations at the Public Safety Complex, as well as health and safety fairs throughout the community.
  - » Leon Lifesaver - this community risk reduction program was presented at over 20 events and focuses on improving safety and preventing injuries in young, school-aged children. Leon, an interactive robotic ambulance, goes into schools and community events teaching children about the proper use



Leon County EMS providing ambulance services

of 9-1-1, the importance of car safety restraints and bicycle helmet use, and stranger danger.

- » Operation Prom Night - this cooperative anti-drunk driving and anti-distracted driving program is for high school-aged teenagers in which a mock accident scene is used to illustrate the dangers of drinking and driving, and distracted driving. This program is hosted by Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare through the cooperation of community partners including schools, EMS, the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Tallahassee Police Department, FSU Police Department, Tallahassee Fire Department, Lifelight Air Methods and ShandsCair.
- » Senior Citizens - EMS participated in various senior citizens events including the Leon County Senior Outreach program.



*Press the Chest 2016*

These programs provided information on healthy living, fall prevention, CPR training and heart health education.

- » Safety Fair - EMS conducted the seventh annual safety fair to highlight personal safety and injury prevention. This event was conducted at Governor's Square Mall. EMS hosted this event along with numerous community partners.
- » Honor Flight Tallahassee - since 2012, EMS has provided medical support for WWII veterans making the one-day trip to Washington D.C.



### Did You Know

Leon County EMS received a perfect score during the accreditation review process and was bestowed another three year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS). The EMS Division was the first municipally operated EMS system in Florida and the eighth in the nation to receive accreditation from CAAS.



*Honor Flight Tallahassee*



*EMS Safety Fair*

### Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

Leon County paramedic Lieutenant Allison Hall was named the **2016 State of Florida Paramedic of the Year** by the Florida Department of Health. The recognition is one of the most prestigious offered as part of the 2016 Excellence in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Awards program.

