



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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**Akron Fire Department EMS Receives Paid/Combination Agency of the Year
State's Division of EMS and Ohio ACEP Host 14th Annual EMS Star of Life Awards**

Akron, Ohio (May 16, 2112) - The Akron Fire Department EMS has been named Paid/Combination Agency of the Year by the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Medical Services and the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (Ohio ACEP).

The Akron Fire Department EMS was honored yesterday, Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the 14th annual EMS Star of Life Awards ceremony at the Bridgewater Banquet & Conference Center in Powell, Ohio. This ceremony corresponds with the week-long celebration of the National Emergency Medical Services Week (May 20-26).

“This is a great honor for the City of Akron and its fire department,” said Mayor Don Plusquellic. “Even during these tough economic times, our fire department is excelling and providing a superior level of protection to our citizens. They are making life-saving decisions and being honored statewide for their positive contributions to our community and the patients and citizens they serve.”

The EMS Start of Life Award honors exceptional EMS personnel from the state of Ohio and reunites EMS providers with the patients they rescued. Attending the award ceremony on behalf of the Akron Fire Department Interim are Chief Rob Ross, Deputy Chief Dale Evans, Rita Chambers, Akron’s Quality Assurance Coordinator, and Captain Joe Natko from the EMS Bureau.

“Competent and compassionate service to the community is our goal, and to be recognized with this prestigious honor affirms the commitment of the City to our citizens, and the skill and dedication of the men and women providing our service,” said Interim Fire Chief Rob Ross. “We are humbled to receive this award and will continue to dedicate ourselves to caring for the Akron community.”

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