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December 14, 2009

TO: All EMS Licensed Services
All Hospital Emergency Departments
All Medical Control Physicians
All Regional Training Centers

FROM: Alonzo W. Smith, Director
Division of Emergency Medical Services

SUBJECT: 2009 Awards Nominations

I am enclosing the Awards Criteria for nomination of awards for 2009. These awards will be presented at the Awards banquet during the Emergency Care Symposia, to be held at Myrtle Beach.

There were many good nominations last year and again I encourage you to nominate those deserving personnel for one of these awards. Please review the criteria for scoring the awards and answer all four categories. Last year, we did have some nominations that started off very well but were incomplete and the candidate was unsuccessful.

The nomination deadline is **February 19, 2010** for all awards. Good luck in your presentations and I hope to see most of you at Myrtle Beach.

If you have any questions, you may contact Leslie Wood at (803) 545-4204.

AWS:lmw

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS AND SPECIFIC CRITERIA

EMT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: Presented to an EMT who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state and/or national level. This award is not for heroic acts.

Eligibility: Any EMT

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects the Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

EMT-I OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: EMT-I who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state or national level. This award is not for heroic acts.

Eligibility: EMT-I only. Open only to those individuals whose primary responsibility is providing direct patient care.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects the Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: EMT-Paramedic who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state or national level. This award is not for heroic acts.

Eligibility: EMT-Paramedics only. Open only to those individuals whose primary responsibility is providing direct patient care.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects the Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

SYSTEM OF THE YEAR AWARD (Category I – Small)

Criteria: Ambulance service which exemplifies outstanding professionalism and service to its community. Examples of these contributions might include any of the following.

1. Exceptional programs/results in training of personnel.
2. Significant awareness by the community of importance of your local EMS system and/or professionalism of system of employees from:
 - a. Letters from patients

- b. Local government support
 - c. Local media
 - d. Award received, etc.
3. Significant contribution to citizen awareness for injury prevention, EMS access, and EMS career opportunities through:
- a. School programs
 - b. Business support
 - c. Health fairs, etc.

Eligibility: Any ambulance service that made less than 2,000 calls during the previous year.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

SYSTEM OF THE YEAR AWARD (Category II – Large)

Criteria: Ambulance service which exemplifies outstanding professionalism and service to its community. Examples of these contributions might include any of the following.

1. Exceptional programs/results in training of personnel.
2. Significant awareness by the community of importance of your local EMS system and/or professionalism of system of employees from:
 - e. Letters from patients
 - f. Local government support
 - g. Local media
 - h. Award received, etc.
3. Significant contribution to citizen awareness for injury prevention, EMS access, and EMS career opportunities through:
 - i. School programs
 - j. Business support
 - k. Health fairs, etc.

Eligibility: Any ambulance service that made more than 2,000 calls during the previous year.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: EMS/RS Director who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state, or national level.

Eligibility: Open to any director of a licensed ambulance service – paid or volunteer.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

EMERGENCY NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: EMS nurse who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state, or national level.

Eligibility: Open to any nurse involved with EMS.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

MEDICAL CONTROL PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Criteria: Medical control physician who has contributed most significantly to EMS at the community, state, or national level.

Eligibility: Open to any medical control physician.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

EMS EDUCATORS AWARD/JACK NILES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Criteria: Presented to that individual who has demonstrated outstanding contribution to the improvement of EMS through education and training of the community and/or EMS providers.

Eligibility: Any individual involved in improvement of EMS through educational goals. Must be certified as an EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic Instructor.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

CURTIS P. ARTZ AWARD

Criteria:

1. Does the situation or incident being cited deal with a person's or group of peoples' primary performance as an emergency medical care professional?
2. Do the actions of the nominee(s) exceed the normal expectations of others holding equivalent certifications and faced with a similar situation?
3. Did the nominee(s) subject himself/herself to unusual risks in an effort to render urgently needed medical care to the patient(s)?

4. Was the risk, if any, necessary in terms of the severity of the situation? In other words, did the nominee(s) assess the overall situation and then knowingly accept the risk for the sake of caring for the patient?
5. Is the supporting documentation adequate to confirm and substantiate the reason for nomination?

Eligibility: Any prehospital provider, EMT (all levels), dispatcher, first responder, registered nurses or physician in a prehospital setting.

Nominated By: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Lowcountry EMS Board

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

The Curtis P. Artz Memorial Award is presented **only** if there is a nominee who meets the specific criteria listed above.

***Note: The award is not given based on the degree of blind risk taken by someone, but on a well thought out response to a medical emergency in the field where the situation at hand required extraordinary performance in order to save life, limb and/or eyesight and where an option not to act could have been exercised.**

WARREN D. MCBRIDE AWARD

Criteria: Presented to that individual who has demonstrated outstanding contribution to the improvement of EMS through a continuing long-term commitment to the citizens of South Carolina.

Eligibility: Any individual involved in improvement of EMS. Normally administrative and not required to be a direct patient care provider.

Who Selects Recipient: EMS Association

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

EMS TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR

Criteria: Presented to that individual who has contributed most effectively to the dispatch operation of an EMS provider. Not to be used for heroic actions.

Eligibility: Must work or volunteer to dispatch EMS among other duties.

Who Selects Recipient: Awards committee

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS EXCELLENCE IN EMS

Criteria: Any EMT-B, I,P who satisfies the following:

1. Either through his/her clinical activities, voluntary activities, or non-clinical humanitarian assistance, is a shining example of the altruistic ideal in emergency medical services, and/or
2. By example, has enhanced the image of emergency medical services, and/or
3. Has increased the activity level of EMS within the state.

Eligibility: Any EMT_B, I, P

Nominated: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: SC CEP Board of Directors

Award Given: Plaque

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

PIER AWARD FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION IN EMS

Criteria: The candidates will submit examples of their work over the past 12-Months as follows:

4. Public Relations
 - a. The presentation should be on what your service did to make known EMS in the community.
 - b. Documentation of Public Relations Events you had for the current year.
 - c. Pictures of related events.
 - d. How did you let the public know about your service?
5. Education:
 - a. What type of events did you do to teach the public about safety, drug use, drinking or driving, car seat safety and other injury prevention programs?
 - b. Participation in 3D Week, EMS Week, or other related educational activities.
6. Public Information / Other:
 - a. Present/list any other items, events activities showing your participation in PIER activities.
 - b. Active Public Information Officer on staff or dedicated to the service and/or organization.
 - c. Documentation of public information classes or training as conducted for staff or other public safety agencies.

Eligibility: Any EMS service.

Nominated: Anyone

Who Selects Recipient: Awards Committee

Award Given: Plaque (One for a large service (more than 2,000 calls in 2009), and one for a small service (less than 2,000 calls in 2009))

When Given: Annual Awards Banquet

Curtis P. Artz, M.D., Memorial Award Award Criteria

The Curtis P. Artz Award was established as a memorial to the outstanding role Dr. Artz played in the establishment of emergency medical services in South Carolina. Dr. Artz, who died in 1977, was nationally recognized for his role in establishing regional burn centers and trauma centers and was acclaimed as one of the worlds leading authorities in that field. Dr. Artz was also instrumental in the establishment of the regional EMS system in the Lowcountry and served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Lowcountry Regional EMS Council and as Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina.

The award was presented for the first time in 1978 for the purpose of recognizing outstanding performance, above and beyond the call of duty, in the field of emergency medicine. Each year, the Board of Directors of the Lowcountry Regional EMS Council presents the Curtis P. Artz Memorial Award to an individual, or group of individuals, who perform above and beyond the level normally expected of a similarly trained individual in rendering direct emergency medical care to a patient. While many persons are deeply involved in the various areas of emergency medicine, it is those persons who take the patient care to the field that make EMS the lifesaving service that it is. For this reason, it is the EMS personnel who work the “streets” whom we wish to recognize and honor with this award.

Nominations for this award are evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Does the situation or incident being cited deal with a person’s or group of peoples’ primary performance as an emergency medical care professional?
2. Do the actions of the nominee(s) exceed the normal expectations of others holding equivalent certifications and faced with a similar situation?
3. Did the nominee(s) subject himself/herself to unusual risks in an effort to render urgently needed medical care to the patient(s)?
4. Was the risk, if any, necessary in terms of the severity of the situation? In other words, did the nominee(s) assess the overall situation and then knowingly accept the risk for the sake of caring for the patient?
5. Is the supporting documentation adequate to confirm and substantiate the reason for nomination?

Note: The award is not given based on the degree of blind risk taken by someone, but on a well thought out response to a medical emergency in the field where the situation at hand required extraordinary performance in order to save life, limb and/or eyesight and where an option not to act could have been exercised.

The Curtis P. Artz Memorial Award is presented **only** if there is a nominee who meets the specific criteria listed above.

EMS AWARDS PROGRAM RULES AND CRITERIA

GENERAL GUIDANCE

Persons preparing nominations are advised that, although not strictly required, supporting documentation and a complete application are virtual requirements for a successful nomination. Submitting only the face sheet, or a single page document in support of a nomination, rarely results in a favorable outcome. Applicants are encouraged to be creative in using the space allowed, and to begin early to collect supporting documents, press clippings, etc.

A suggestion for applicants is to try and present the candidate(s) strengths according to the four scoring criteria in the first three to six pages, and to then document this information with photographs, copies of the proclamations and certificates, press clippings, and letters of support in the remaining pages. By creatively positioning several photos or clippings on one side of a sheet of paper, the applicant can save space and maximize the information presented to the reader.

Photographs may be photocopied onto the pages, or copies of the photograph may be made and attached to the page in the original. Applicants are cautioned that photocopies, which are illegible or indecipherable by the readers may be worse than no copy at all.

The readers may not know the candidate, therefore be as all-inclusive as possible by concisely presenting the important information that will lead to a high score.

All information should support a candidate for deeds or valor that took place during 2009.

**SOUTH CAROLINA EMS AWARDS PROGRAM
NOMINATION FACE SHEET**

NOMINEE'S NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____

STATE CERTIFIED EMT? :YES _____ NO _____ #: _____

CERTIFICATION LEVEL :EMT-B _____ EMT-1 _____ EMT-P _____

NOMINEE'S PRIMARY OCCUPATION IF OTHER THAN EMS _____

NOMINEE'S EMS AGENCY (Include address, phone number, and description of nominee's duties) _____

INDICATE FOR WHICH AWARD THIS NOMINATION IS BEING SUBMITTED:

- 1. EMT of the Year _____
- 2. EMT-1 of the Year _____
- 3. Paramedic of the Year _____
- 4. System of the Year-small (less than 2000 calls in 2009) _____
- 5. System of the Year-large (more than 2000 calls in 2009) _____
- 6. Director of the Year _____
- 7. Emergency Nurse of the Year _____
- 8. Medical Control Physician of the Year _____
- 9. Jack Niles _____
- 10. Curtis P. Artz _____
- 11. Warren D. McBride _____
- 12. EMS Telecommunicator of the Year _____
- 13. SC CEP Award for Excellence in EMS _____
- 14. PIER Award for Public Information & Education in EMS _____

SEND THE NOMINATIONS IN TIME TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN **February 19, 2010**
TO: LESLIE WOOD, DHEC - EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION
2600 BULL STREET, COLUMBIA SC, 29201.

YOUR NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE (DAY) (____) _____ (NIGHT) _____

YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO NOMINEE _____

SOUTH CAROLINA AWARDS PROGRAM

AWARDS CRITERIA

GENERAL RULES

- SIZE:** All nominations must be submitted on 8.5" by 11" bond or letterhead paper.
- PAGE LIMIT:** Nominations shall no exceed 10 sheets of paper, however, both sides of the page may be used.
- BINDING:** All nominations should be fastened securely along the left margin. You may wish to add a cover to the nomination, and it will not count towards the page limit. Please, no bulky or heavy covers. Please be advised that all nominations will be placed in large 3 ring binders by EMS staff for viewing by the judges, therefore folders, binders, or notebooks will not be necessary.
- FORMAT:** All nominations of individuals should include a resume to exceed two pages in length. Typewritten nominations are encouraged to insure the judges complete understanding of what you are trying to say. Pictures may be pasted to the page along with newspaper accounts or other text or graphics. Do not attach loosely in envelope with nomination. Do not send tapes, (audio or visuals) slides or movies as they will not be read or heard.
- COPIES:** Send your original copy to the EMS Division along **with eight (8) Additional copies for the judges. COPIES MUST BE IN THIS FORMAT:**
- Three hole punched on the left hand side of the paper.
 - Binder or paper clipped (**no staples or spiral binding**).
 - Have the nomination face sheet as the first page.
- Copies can be a photocopy of the original; they do not have to be in color. If you would like your original nomination returned to you, please attach a notification of this request in your packet.
- DEADLINE:** All nominations must be received no later than **February 19, 2010**

*** All award nominations that are not submitted in the above format, will be returned to the sender.**

JUDGING:

Awards which are decided by the Awards Committee will be objectively scored according to criteria. A panel of no less than three members will make all decisions, and the decision of the panel is final. All nominations are scored on a zero to ten-point range with criteria categories. Applicants are urged to address all categories to receive the maximum possible point score.

The four categories are:

Individual

1. What has the individual accomplished to improve EMS.
2. Community involvement of the individual.
3. Credentials or awards.
4. Letters of recommendation.

Service

1. Improvement of service over the last year.
2. Community involvement of the service.
3. Credentials or awards of service.
4. Letters of recommendations.

A perfect nomination would receive a score of 40 points from each reader.

**LIMITS ON
NOMINATIONS
AND AWARDS:**

An individual can only be considered for one award annually among those decided by the Awards Committee. In the event that a person is nominated for more than one award, that person's nomination will be assigned to one award category only. Such assignment is not an implied or expressed decision to present the award to the person.

RESUBMISSIONS:

Unsuccessful nominations previously submitted must be completely updated before being re-submitted. Care must also be taken to assure that letters of support refer to the award for which the person is being nominated. A nomination for the EMT of the Year Award, for example, must not contain year-old letters taken from a nomination for another award.