



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

- Consolidated dispatch functions for Leon County EMS, the Leon County Sheriff, Tallahassee Fire, and Tallahassee Police, which provides a single point of contact for 9-1-1 answering and dispatch services, and reduces response times.
- To reduce emergency response times and better coordinate response activities, EMS relocated to the recently constructed Public Safety Complex and the EMS Operations Center, where it is now housed with other local public safety agencies and operations, including the Tallahassee/Leon County Consolidated Dispatch Agency, Leon County Emergency Management, Tallahassee Fire Department Administration, and the City's Transportation Management Center.
- Waived EMS fees for uninsured or underinsured veterans.
- Provided 136 internships for Tallahassee Community College and North Florida College EMS Technology students.
- Implemented strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates, and to prevent injuries. This includes the support of AEDs in public spaces, and community risk reduction training, such as AED/CPR training.
- Sponsored Big Bend Heart Walk to advocate for Heart Healthy Living.

Contact Us

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www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS

PRESERVING LIFE, IMPROVING HEALTH, PROMOTING SAFETY

- Leon County EMS provided emergency medical services, responding to 33,281 requests for EMS assistance, resulting in 23,858 patient transports, which is an increase from the 32,616 requests for assistance and 23,627 transports over the prior 12-month period (August 1 – July 31).
- Supported the May 11, 2013 inaugural Honor Flight Tallahassee, which escorted 79 WWII Veterans to their national memorial in Washington, DC. EMS staff helped plan and coordinate the event, and provided paramedic services. Leon County provided \$15,000 in funding.
- With over 300,000 people dying from sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States before they reach the 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 1,500 citizens were trained in CPR and AED use. Additionally, the number of public access AEDs in the community, registered with the Division of EMS, increased from 748 to 801.
 - » **Press the Chest:** For the third year, EMS hosted “Press the Chest,” a community-wide CPR and AED training event held at the Turnbull Florida State Conference Center. The Division of EMS and community partners trained 332 citizens in CPR and AED use at one time.
 - » **Train to Save a Life:** To highlight the effects of sudden cardiac arrest, the County held “Train to Save a Life: Learn CPR” at the Leon County Civic Center in collaboration with the Tallahassee Fitness Festival. With approximately 1,675 attendees, highly credentialed EMS personnel taught the importance of correctly performing high-quality CPR and AED.
 - » **CPR Sunday:** EMS held a “CPR Sunday” at the Governor’s Square Mall, teaching nearly 100 citizens CPR and AED use. Furthermore, EMS went to Lincoln High School and trained



Public Safety Complex EMS Operations Center

270 H.O.P.E. (Health Opportunities through Physical Education) students in CPR and AED use with CPR Anytime Kits. EMS also taught CPR and AED use to more than 70 students in Chiles High School’s externship class.

- 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:** Leon County conducted a child passenger safety seat checkpoint at the corner of Blairstone and Miccosukee



EMS Safety Fair



roads on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and occasionally on some Friday afternoons. EMS provided certified child passenger seat technicians at the event to provide parents and caregivers free hands-on education and to inspect car seats. EMS also conducted a Child Passenger Safety Seat Checkpoint at the Safety Fair.

» **Leon Lifesaver:** Leon Lifesaver is a community risk reduction program presented at over twenty-five events, which 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 of 9-1-1, the importance of car safety restraints, bicycle helmet use, and stranger danger.

» **Operation Prom Night:** Operation Prom Night is a cooperative anti-drunk driving and anti-distracted driving program for high school-aged teenagers,



Deputy Chief Mac Kemp receives the Glenn J. Winuk Humanitarian Service award for volunteering with Honor Flight.

where 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, and the Tallahassee Fire Department.

» **Senior Citizens:** The Division of EMS conducted 20 risk reduction events focused on the needs of senior citizens. These programs provided information on health living, fall prevention and heart attack.

» **Safety Fair:** EMS conducted the fourth annual safety fair to highlight personal safety and injury prevention. This event was conducted in conjunction with Honor Flight Tallahassee's 5K fundraiser Race the Runway, Leon County Sheriff's Office, Florida Highway Patrol, Capital Regional Medical Center, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, Tallahassee Police Department, Tallahassee Fire Department, Life Flight Air Methods, Florida Fish and Wildlife, Florida Department of Health, Florida Department of Transportation, American Red Cross, and the Epilepsy Association of the Big Bend.



Press The Chest



Welcome Home Breakfast at the Public Safety Complex EMS Operations Center



Did You Know

Over the last three years at "Press the Chest" events, Leon County Emergency Medical Services trained more than 1,200 citizens on how to perform Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and to use Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

Leon County EMS was awarded the 2013 State of Florida Injury Prevention Award.

Leon County EMS received a full three-year CAAS reaccreditation.

