



## 2 Indiana Paramedic Nationally Honored

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## Reducing Sleep-Related Infant Deaths in Indiana

One Hoosier infant dies every thirteen hours. For every 1,000 babies born in Indiana, more than seven will die before they turn one - 597 total infants in 2014 alone.

The Labor of Love Summit, organized by the Indiana State Department of Health and the Fort Wayne Medical Education Program, is working to reduce infant mortality. Part of the initiative includes bringing the Direct On-Scene Education (DOSE) program back to Indiana for a train-the-trainer opportunity.

More than 14 percent of infant deaths are attributed to sudden unexpected infant death (SUID). Many of these SUID cases happen when the infant is sleeping in an unsafe sleeping environment. Captain James Carroll of the Broward County, Florida, Fire Department, co-developed DOSE to combat the number of infant deaths due to SUID in his EMS district. The educational tactic has taken his district from the highest number of infant deaths in Broward County, Fla., to the lowest.

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## Indiana Emergency Response Conference Announces 2016 Award Winners

The Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC) presented its annual awards on Friday, August 26 at an evening ceremony.

The conference is for firefighters, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, emergency management agencies, hazardous materials professionals, special operations and telecommunicators.

Award recipients are:

### Fire Instructor of the Year (Division)

Vincennes Township Fire District (Vincennes, Ind.)



The training division, managed by Deputy Chief Eddie King, is responsible for training the career and volunteer members of the Vincennes Township Fire District. The division provides nearly 7,000 contact hours of

training each year for the department, training to many other Knox County fire departments and training to hundreds of firefighters from Vincennes University.

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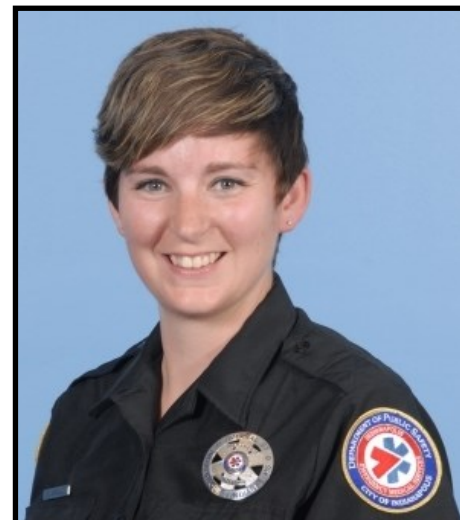
## Indianapolis Paramedic Named National Paramedic of the Year

Indiana Emergency Medical Services (IEMS) Paramedic Bryn Arnold has been named the 2016 Paramedic of the Year by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT). According to the NAEMT, Arnold has been recognized for “her leadership skills and for taking new employees, students and observers under her guidance.” Arnold has been working with IEMS since 2010.

Arnold was nominated for the award by IEMS Section Chief Tom Arkins. “She is one of those paramedics who has the gift of being great at her job.

She is not only a stellar clinical provider, she is an overall great person. Bryn shows compassion for all of her patients no matter the circumstances,” said Arkins.

Arnold was also recognized as Paramedic of the Year by the 2016 Indiana Emergency Response Conference after being nominated by five different people. The individuals who nominated Arnold spoke of her dedication to the job, her compassion for her patients, and her willingness to go above and beyond while serving the people of her community.



## Reducing Sleep-Related Infant Deaths (from page 1)

The program encourages fire and EMS personnel to look for evidence of children when called to a home, and provides methods to begin a discussion and provide education on ways to prevent sleep-related infant death. The program trains first responders on how to identify and remove hazards from an infant’s sleep space while on-scene during emergency and non-emergency 911 calls.

As trusted community sources for health and safety information, emergency responders have a chance to provide guidance and

help mitigate sleep-related dangers to infants. With 85 percent of fire and EMS calls taking place inside the home, the opportunities to make a difference are numerous.

The DOSE program was presented in August at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference, allowing responders across the state the opportunity to participate in train-the-trainer classes. In addition to the class, the Labor of Love Summit will additionally provide training materials and supplemental program materials that will allow participating fire

departments to implement the program within their communities.

The Labor of Love Summit will be held Monday, October 17, 2016, at the JW Marriot in downtown Indianapolis. Check-in will begin at 7 a.m., and programming starts at 8 a.m.

For more information on the Labor of Love Summit, and to attend the Emergency Response Professionals track focusing on DOSE, visit <http://www.infantmortalitysummit-indiana.org/>

## New Haven Fire Department Promotes New Fire Chief

The New Haven/Adams Township Fire Department promoted a new fire chief on August 20, 2016. Joshua Hale, a New Haven native, replaced retiring Chief John Bennett.

Hale has been a part of the New Haven/Adams Township Fire Department since 2001, when he joined as a volunteer firefighter.

He was hired full-time in 2006 and has held several positions including lieutenant and training captain, as well as serving on the volunteer board of directors.

Hale was a key part in bringing training through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) to the department.

He has received training through IDHS, the National Fire Academy and other programs.

Retiring Chief Bennett served the community of New Haven for 41 years.

The New Haven/Adams Township Fire Department has three stations and is a combination of fire and rescue.

## Mobile Hospital Deployed in Demonstration

On August 27, a steamy, stormy Saturday morning, the Indiana Guard Reserve and Indiana State Department of Health teamed-up to demonstrate how quickly they could set up a mobile hospital during an emergency.

Under the direction of the ISDH, dozens of Guard Reservists removed hospital tents and equipment from a trailer, built it and tested it at the Warsaw, Indiana airport. It took less than two hours to set it all up.

“It has everything you’d need for a full hospital,” said Col. Mark Griffith, the Indiana Guard Reserve medical commander. “We have physicians, EMTs and other medical professionals who can staff it, no matter where it is.”

Once the hospital was operational, IGR’s Medical Command tested its capabilities using mock patients. Parkview Health brought its Samaritan Two air ambulance from Rochester, Ind., to evacuate a patient after triage at the hospital. Emergency management agencies, first responders, politicians and reporters came on-site to witness the event. The IGR plans to test its capabilities again at an annual training in October.



## Gibson County EMS Conducts Decontamination Drill

Gibson County Emergency Medical Services and Monsanto Company — a grain engineering firm — conducted a decontamination disaster drill with assistance from the Gibson County Sheriff’s Department and the Fort Branch Fire Department.

In the scenario, Monsanto employees were working in a field and a crop duster plane flew over,

spraying the field with pesticide. The employees were then evacuated to a decontamination area equipped with portable showers.

Gibson County EMS triaged patients using red, yellow and green triage categories and sent them to the cold zone once they were properly decontaminated. Minutes later, Fort Branch FD

arrived and began moving patients from the decontamination area to the triage area. The drill took approximately one hour to complete, and 30 patients were triaged.

After the drill, representatives from Fort Branch FD, Gibson County EMS, and Monsanto held a “hot wash” discussion of the events and ways to improve in the event of a real emergency.

# Indiana Emergency Response Conference Announces 2016 Award Winners (from page 1)

## Fire Instructor of the Year (Individual)

Cole Huth, Clay Fire Territory (South Bend, Ind.)



In addition to managing an aggressive operational training program for Clay Fire, Chief Cole Huth coordinates the Recruit Fire Academy. Upon completion, each candidate has completed nearly 500 hours of training and has received eight certifications required for participating as an active member of Clay Fire. Huth serves as the lead instructor, working to ignite passion and professionalism in the individuals who are beginning their career.

## Dispatcher of the Year

Rita Hughes, Three Rivers Ambulance Authority (Fort Wayne, Ind.)

Throughout her 10 years of service with the department, Rita Hughes has served as a team lead, trainer and quality assurance evaluator. She demonstrates the best in customer service and voices concerns in order to ensure the

best performance and working environment. On more than one occasion, Hughes has gone well out of her way to help her colleagues and those in the Fort Wayne community, often sacrificing her own time to ensure the job is done and done correctly.

## Heroic Rescue of the Year Award

Paul Blanford, Decatur Township Fire Department (Indianapolis)



While off-duty, Paul Blanford responded to a semi truck crash that had occurred down the road from his residence. Blanford, without hesitation or personal protective gear, ran to the burning truck through heavy black smoke and intense heat to grab the unresponsive driver and pull him to safety.

## EMS Basic Life Support Provider of the Year (Fire Department-based)

Plainfield Fire Department

Plainfield Fire Department responds to 5,300 emergency calls annually. Even with the high volume, the department displays a high level of compassion to patients. One notable example is a recent run where a barely ambulatory patient had been unable to provide self-care for some time. One EMT on the run, Warren Weakly, suggested that the patient be bathed prior to transport, allowing the team to provide kindness and care to the patient in a difficult situation.

## EMS Advanced Life Support Provider of the Year (Fire Department-based)

Scott Township Fire Department (Evansville, Ind.)



The Scott Township Fire Department EMS program has made many changes over the last year to protocols to improve outcomes and provide the best patient care possible. Scott Township has focused on being community centered recently, being available to many in the community and developing a relationship with the local high school.

# Indiana Emergency Response Conference Announces 2016 Award Winners (from page 4)

## EMS Advanced Life Support Provider of the Year (Non Fire Department-based)

Three Rivers Ambulance Authority (Fort Wayne, Ind.)



Three Rivers Ambulance Authority (TRAA) has been the sole EMS provider for the City of Fort Wayne since 1982, and is the only Indiana EMS provider to hold accreditations from the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch Accredited Center of Excellence and the Commission on Accredited Ambulance Service. This year, TRAA became the only EMS provider in the state to join the Indiana State Department of Health's Infant Safe Sleep initiative, which works to teach parents and caregivers about safe sleep practices

## Firefighter of the Year

Larry Shots, Vincennes Fire Department



Larry Shots is a dedicated and

hardworking firefighter, and this shows through the countless training seminars and classes he attends on his own time and mostly at his own expense. He is hazmat strong, serves as the department's EMS director, as well as working duty shifts and commanding a ladder truck and station, all while trying each and every day to better himself and those around him.

## Fire Chief of the Year (Career)

Jerry Purcell, Richmond Fire Department



Two years ago, Chief Jerry Purcell took over a stagnant department, he assembled a staff and together, they have developed specialty teams in hazardous materials, confined space and rope rescue. He has facilitated an updated training ground, and developed a vocational program with the local high school. Purcell is involved in

local organizations, his church and community and he has recently been appointed to serve with the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association.

## Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year

Karen Hendershot, Washington Township/Avon Fire Department (Avon, Ind.)



Karen Hendershot fulfills the role of educator in local schools, churches and other community venues. Recently, Hendershot accepted the responsibility of county coordinator for the Project Lifesaver Program, which is designed to assist in the tracking and locating of persons. She leads the car seat inspection program, offers community CPR classes and is currently in the process of completing work on a "Civilian Firefighter Academy."

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# Indiana Emergency Response Conference Announces 2016 Award Winners (from page 5)

## Primary (EMS) Instructor of the Year

Mike Hunter, Harrison County Hospital EMS



Mike Hunter took over the Harrison County Hospital EMS program in 2009, and by 2011 had taken the education program to its first Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs award, a feat he has just recently repeated. He has obtained grants for high tech training aids to give his students the latest in high fidelity simulation, has also worked with local schools to get CPR classes in high schools, and is assisting schools in maintaining those programs.

## EMS for Children Award

Scott DeBoer, Pedi-Ed-Trics Emergency Medical Solutions (Dyer, Ind.)



Scott DeBoer has given every part of his life to making a difference in the world of EMS and in the lives of thousands of children. He has taken his years of pediatric/emergency experience and authored seven EMS books, more than 100 journal articles, and taught more than 1,000 live pediatric seminars to date.

## EMT-Basic of the Year

Kalvin Hicks, Indianapolis EMS



Kalvin Hicks has served Indianapolis EMS with

distinction since August of 1993. His skills are above reproach, and his demeanor in times of crisis helps not only the patients, but calms those around him. As a field training officer, Hicks works to instill in every new person the same excitement and love for the job that he has been able to maintain after more than two decades.

## EMT-Advanced of the Year

Gary Henderson, Harrison County Hospital EMS



Gary Henderson has been an EMT for seven years, becoming an EMT Advanced in 2015. He comes into work every shift with a smile and is also always willing to volunteer to assist, from helping emergency room staff in caring for patients when staff were overloaded to changing a tire for an elderly man.

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# Indiana Emergency Response Conference Announces 2016 Award Winners (from page 6)

## Paramedic of the Year

Bryn Arnold, Indianapolis EMS



Bryn Arnold has always worked the busiest, most socio-economically challenged and the most violent parts of town, and she has always done this with a smile on her face. She is very passionate about training and orienting new employees to our service and she knows almost everyone that lives in her area's homeless camps, their general health conditions, what they typically call for and what resources are needed to help them in the long term.

## Medical Director of the Year

Joshua Krumenacker, M.D.,  
Franciscan St. Elizabeth Health  
(Crawfordsville, Ind.)

Since the initial proposal to implement a community paramedicine program, Dr. Krumenacker has stood by the idea of this innovative model of healthcare. Dr. Krumenacker understands the potential it has for reducing emergency room

visits, healthcare costs and ultimately has extended the reach of a primary care physician within their community.

## Fire Officer of the Year

Brian Dodd, Vincennes Township Fire Department (Vincennes, Ind.)



Brian Dodd has been a volunteer member of the Vincennes Township Fire Department for 18 years. During this time he has been very active and has had a passion for water rescue, serving as the team commander for the dive rescue team for 11 years. He has been responsible for training new members and overseeing ongoing training for members to maintain their skill level.

## EMS Officer of the Year

John Toler, Crawfordsville Fire Department

As a 20-year veteran of the Crawfordsville Fire Department, Lieutenant John Toler has made a profound impact within his department and his community. Toler has continually pushed for

the expansion of the firefighter's role in modern medicine. During his role in the community paramedicine program, Toler took the initiative to become a certified instructor in brief action planning.

## Distinguished Service Award

Paul "Pete" Martin, Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department (Corydon, Ind.)



Paul "Pete" Martin was one of the "Founding Fathers" of the Ramsey Volunteer Fire Department in 1961. They raised funds to establish a fire department, and bought a used truck chassis to build their first fire truck. From this beginning the department grew to cover 113 square miles. He assisted in starting the first state certified ambulance service in Harrison County and later led the movement to bring 911 services to the area. Martin was unable to attend the awards presentation, as he was on stand by with an ambulance at a football game that night.

\*Information for award recipients is from their nomination form.

## Mission

*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.*

## Contact

*The Hoosier Responder* is a publication of The Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information Office at (317) 234-6713 or [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov).

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