



State EMS Awards Book of Recognition



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The EMS Unit Citation recognizes acts of organizations, units, or specially constituted teams in providing emergency prehospital care or EMS system support activities under extreme circumstances.

**Winston Dillard Fire District
Douglas County Fire District #2
Wilt's Emergency Services and Transport**

Challenging calls are what keep EMS interesting. On January 12, 2002, Winston Dillard Fire District (WDFD) along with Douglas County Fire District #2 (DCFD2) and Wilt's Emergency Services and Transport (WEST) were challenged in more than a variety of ways within a single incident. Through teamwork and tenacity, together they overcame multiple barriers to achieve a positive clinical outcome.

Receiving erroneous location information, WDFD found themselves 5 miles outside of their District, on an undeveloped logging road in very rugged mountain terrain. After hiking uphill another quarter mile in the rain and mud, they had to rappel down to reach the patient. Their patient had driven off the road, sustained multi-system traumatic injuries and was acutely short of breath. Intoxicated friends of the patient who had witnessed the accident further complicated the incident. They were now fearful and agitated as they had delayed seeking help, knowing their friend was a wanted felon. With the assistance of two DCFD2 responders, the patient was brought up 375 feet to the roadway and carried the quarter mile back to WEST's ambulance. Prehospital intervention included RSI intubation.

WDFD, DCFD2, and WEST worked together to affect this rescue of a critically injured patient in a hostile environment, in an inaccessible area, with limited resources (6 personnel), in bad weather and in the dark. For their performance and professionalism in a less than ideal situation, these three agencies are recognized with the Unit Citation award.

Thank you all for your individual and collective acts of heroism and dedication to the provision of EMS in Oregon.



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**American Medical Response
Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
Clackamas County Medical Examiner's Office
Mountain Wave Communications
Oregon Army National Guard, 1042nd Medical
Portland Mountain Rescue
Timberline Lodge
United States Air Force, 939th Air Rescue Wing**

On September 11, 2001, we as a nation, saw how quickly rescuers can become victims of an incident. On May 30, 2002, we as the state of Oregon experienced first hand how quickly rescuers can become victims. While climbing Mt Hood that day, off-duty fire and EMS coworkers became victims of two sets of climbers above them who had fallen. In total, nine (9) climbers were drawn into a crevasse - three (3) died in the fall.

Although injured themselves, several of the off-duty victims were able to provide care to their fellow climbers. Some who witnessed the incident, summoned a formal rescue response and began rescue efforts. These efforts included: triage, extrication, treatment and packaging victims for transport. All injured climbers were removed from the mountain for transport to area hospitals. There were a total of 12 patients, six climbers, and three military personnel. The above agencies responded as part of the formal rescue.

The group continued working by improvising, adapting and overcoming elements of the rescue until all injured had been transported. They persevered in extreme conditions including; environment, injured peers, family, and an on-scene crash of a rescue helicopter.

Thank you, to all, for your individual and collective acts of heroism and dedication to the provision of EMS in Oregon.



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Jackson County Fire District #3, White City Mercy Flights, Inc

On occasion, there are EMS calls where everything goes just right. On December 26, 2001, Jackson County Fire District #3 (JCFD3) and Mercy Flights air and ground operations choreographed a complex 32-minute EMS and rescue operation where everything went just right.

The initial dispatch to JCFD3 and Mercy Flights was for a motor vehicle crash. En route, additional information became available that it was an auto versus truck with entrapment. An additional Mercy unit was requested. Upon arrival and primary assessment, it was determined that a third Mercy Unit and heavy extrication would be needed. As the rescue operation unfolded and further patient assessments were made an air ambulance was requested to the scene. With the size-up complete and all the necessary resources coming, the focus became patient care and extrication.

With extrication of the most critical patient still in process, the first arriving Mercy unit was assigned a patient and able to transport immediately. The second Mercy Unit's role was to work with and prepare the critical, entrapped patient for transport by air ambulance. Upon the arrival of Mercy's third ambulance, the second patient was ready for transport. This was 16 minutes into the call with extrication continuing on the critical patient. When Mercy's helicopter arrived, the extrication was almost complete. Within six (6) minutes of being freed from the wreckage, the most critical patient was airborne to a Trauma Center. A fourth patient was treated at the scene and refused transportation.

From dispatch to lift off of the last patient, this incident was 32 minutes of fluid motion where everything went right. For their teamwork and professionalism Jackson County Fire District #3 - White City and Mercy Flights air and ground operations are presented Unit Citations.

Thank you, all, for your individual and collective acts of heroism and dedication to the provision of EMS in Oregon.