

For Immediate Release May 6, 2013 Contact: Bill Webb Tel: (202) 371-1277 Email: bwebb@cfsi.org

Fire Service-Based EMS Advocates Recognize National EMS Week

Sunday May 19, 2013 marks the beginning of National EMS Week and presents an opportunity to honor the men and women who deliver pre-hospital 9-1-1 emergency medical care throughout the United States. This vital public safety service is provided primarily by cross-trained, multi-role emergency responders who are based in our nation's fire departments.

The fire service has a rich history of protecting the health and safety of our communities through an 'all hazards' response model that includes the delivery of pre-hospital emergency medical care. Fire service-based EMS providers are located, trained, and equipped to provide virtually every community with timely pre-hospital 9-1-1 emergency medical response and patient care. Every day, dual role firefighter/EMTs and firefighter/paramedics respond quickly, professionally and compassionately to medical emergencies in communities across the country.

The Fire Service-Based EMS Advocates coalition recognizes the life-saving contributions and achievements, as well as the dedication and commitment of those who serve in fire service-based EMS systems. National EMS Week is a time to pause and say "thank you" to the entire EMS Community, including firefighter/EMTs and firefighter/paramedics - our nation's 'all hazards' response professionals.

The Fire Service-Based EMS Advocates coalition, based in Washington, DC, provides Members of Congress, federal agencies, and many others with information they need to effectively support fire service-based EMS systems throughout the nation. For more information about the Fire Service-Based EMS Advocates and how to join the coalition, visit <u>www.fireserviceems.com</u>.

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