

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott  
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS  
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Florida Department of Health Honors Valiant Services of EMS Professionals**

**TALLAHASSEE**– Marking Florida’s First Responder Appreciation Week, the Florida Department of Health is honoring the more than 274 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations.

“Florida’s EMS Professionals put their lives on the line every day to respond to emergencies,” said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. “We honor the work they do daily to save lives and enrich the health of Florida’s children, adults and families.”

Governor Rick Scott proclaimed January 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> as Florida First Responder Appreciation Week. This honorary period is for the purpose of showing respect and appreciation to Florida’s first responder community and its many uniformed professionals. The work of EMS professionals saves lives and reduces disability associated with illness and injury.

Florida has more than 29,191 Emergency Medical Technicians staffing licensed and volunteer services. In addition, Florida has more than 27,916 certified Paramedics who staff Advanced Life Support vehicles and aircraft in response to critically ill and injured patients.

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyFla](https://twitter.com/HealthyFla) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyFla). For more information about the Florida Department of Health, please visit [www.floridahealth.gov](http://www.floridahealth.gov).

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