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## ***MedStar Receives National Re-Accreditation***

***January 6, 2015*** (Fort Worth, Texas) MedStar Mobile Healthcare, the exclusive ambulance service provider to 15 North Texas cities, has received re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS).

Of the approximately 2,500 licensed ambulance providers in North America, only 172 are CAAS accredited and MedStar is one of only seven accredited ambulance services in the state of Texas.

*“CAAS accreditation signifies that the MedStar system has met the gold standard determined by the industry to be essential in a modern emergency medical services provider,”* said Doug Hooten, MedStar’s Executive Director. *“This is another example of commitment to excellence on the part of every one of our employees.”*

The 18-month application process included a comprehensive self-assessment and an independent outside review of MedStar operations, including a multi-day on-site review by national experts in emergency medical services.

In order to achieve accreditation, off-site and on-site reviewers analyzed every area of MedStar, including things like clinical protocols and quality assurance, outside patient satisfaction surveys, testing of emergency communication plans and back-up procedures, tracking and quality assurance of fleet maintenance, and assuring all employees are aware of all policies.

In the letter notifying MedStar of the Re-accreditation, the CAAS Board made special mention of MedStar’s achievement of a perfect score from the on-site reviewers, and of the numerous innovations implemented by MedStar that have become a new benchmark for EMS agencies nationwide.

Zim Zimmerman, Fort Worth City Council Member and Chairman of MedStar’s Governing Board, the Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority commented, *“The AMAA Board is very proud of the MedStar team. This year, we received the National Safety Council and TxDOT Safe Driving Award, an AMBY Award from the American Ambulance Association and an EMS10 Innovation Award from the Journal of Emergency Medical Services. Our CAAS Re-Accreditation is the crown jewel in an amazing year for Team MedStar.”*

Accreditation means the community can be confident that MedStar is providing the highest level of quality patient care and that it stands ready to care for their families when needed.

**About the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS)**

CAAS is a non-profit organization established to encourage and promote quality patient care in America's medical transportation system. The primary focus of the Commission's standards is high-quality patient care by establishing national standards which not only address the delivery of patient care, but also the ambulance service's total operation and its relationships with other agencies, the general public, and the medical community. CAAS's standards often exceed state or local licensing requirements. The Commission's Board of Directors includes representatives of six national EMS-related organizations:

- \* American Ambulance Association
- \* American College of Emergency Physicians
- \* International Association of Fire Chiefs
- \* National Association of EMS PHYSICIANS
- \* National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
- \* National Association of State EMS Directors

With liaison representation from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**About MedStar**

MedStar is the exclusive emergency and non-emergency ambulance service provider to 15 North Texas cities including Blue Mound, Burleson, Edgecliff Village, Forest Hill, Fort Worth, Haltom City, Haslet, Lakeside, Lake Worth, River Oaks, Saginaw, Samson Park, Westover Hills, Westworth Village, and White Settlement. Established in 1986, MedStar provides ambulance and mobile integrated healthcare services to 421 square miles and more than 950,000 residents. MedStar responds to about 125,000 emergency calls a year with a fleet of 55 ambulances.

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