



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELLIOT CELEBRATES THOSE WHO SERVE ON THE FRONTLINE OF HEALTHCARE DURING NATIONAL EMS WEEK

Manchester, NH: We celebrate Emergency Medical Services Week across our great nation May 14 to 20, bringing together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honoring the dedication of those who provide day-to-day lifesaving services on the medical "front line."

Elliot Health System, the New England EMS Institute and Merrimack Emergency Physicians will take this week as an opportunity to thank and appreciate EMS staff and will host a reception in their honor on the evening of Wednesday, May 17.

"This year's theme, *EMS: Serving on Health Care's Front Line*, focuses on the commitment and dedication of the 750,000 EMS personnel who provide an essential community service every day," says Dr. Frederick Blum, president, American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). "It emphasizes that the brave men and women who serve as EMS providers are often first on the scene of a disaster, a motor vehicle crash or other event that may place them in a hazardous environment. It's important that we take the time to honor these front line medical responders for often going above and beyond the call of duty to save lives, while risking their own."

Just as important, is the recognition that EMS is part of a total system of healthcare providers that includes the bystander who calls 9-1-1, the medical first responders, BLS/ALS care and transportation, med-evac transport, the hospital emergency department, specialty care centers, rehabilitation, and injury prevention/public education programs. All of these components make up the community EMS system.

The New England EMS Institute, a part of Elliot Health System, is the premier education center for pre-hospital healthcare and is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs and licensed by the New Hampshire Postsecondary Education Commission. EMS Week is sponsored by the American College of Emergency Physicians.

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