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Acadian Ambulance celebrates National EMS Week, 2008 May 18-24

“Your Life Is Our Mission”

“Around one million EMS professionals provide lifesaving care to people in their communities when every minute counts, before they even get to the emergency department,” said Acadian Ambulance Chief Medical Officer Dr. Ross Judice. “This year’s theme, ‘Your Life is Our Mission’ illustrates the selflessness and commitment these extraordinary people bring to their jobs every hour of every day of the year. For this they deserve our recognition and thanks.” National EMS Week is observed May 18 – 24.

Paramedic Glenn Naquin and EMT-Intermediate John Trahan are two medics who were honored by Acadian Ambulance and abide by the EMS theme: Your Life Is Our Mission.

Naquin and Trahan participated in the Stars of Life Celebration, held in Washington DC, which pays tribute to paramedics and EMS personnel who exemplify what is best about their service. The Acadian medics met with their elected officials to discuss health care issues as they relate to the pre-hospital care field.

Naquin and Trahan were presented a medal at the Stars of Life Banquet along with 100 EMS professionals who have made outstanding contributions to the communities they serve.

Naquin was voted Acadian Ambulance’s Paramedic of the Year. He is a native resident of Houma, and has been with Acadian since 1996. Naquin was also chosen by his peers as the Paramedic of the Year and honored at Acadian’s Paramedic Luncheon in Lafayette last Friday. Naquin is a flight training officer and a flight paramedic stationed in Houma.

Trahan was voted as Acadian’s Medic of the Year. Trahan is a native resident of New Iberia, and a thirty-four year veteran with Acadian Ambulance. Stationed in his hometown, Trahan began as a non-EMT driver and now holds the position of EMT-Intermediate. He also serves as station supply monitor, as a preceptor and takes great pride in sharing his wealth of knowledge with new employees.

“Glenn and John are the kind of exemplary medics who have helped Acadian gain the reputation as the best ambulance service in the nation,” said Judice. A huge part of EMS Week is to educate the public on their role within the EMS system, and Acadian reminds you always to call EMS if you or someone you are with needs immediate medical treatment. To make this decision, ask yourself the following questions:

- Is the victim’s condition life-threatening?
- Could the victim’s condition worsen and become life-threatening on the way to the hospital?
- Does the victim require the skills or equipment of paramedic or emergency medical technicians?
- Could the distance or traffic conditions cause a delay in getting the victim to the hospital?

If your answer to any of these questions is “yes,” or if you are unsure, it is best to call EMS by dialing 9-1-1. Paramedics and emergency medical technicians can begin medical treatments at the scene and on the way to the hospital and alert the emergency department of your condition en route. They can even help give instructions over the phone before the ambulance arrives.

When you call for help, speak calmly and clearly. Give your name, address and phone number; give the location of the victim and describe the problem. Do not hang up until the operator tells you to, because he or she may need more information or need to give you instructions.

EMS providers include paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders, fire fighters and police. Acadian Ambulance is honored to be among the best EMS system in the world.

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Cutline: Acadian Ambulance Medics Glenn Naquin and John Trahan met with their Congressmen in Washington, DC to discuss health care issues as they relate to emergency medical services. The visit was part of the Stars of Life Celebration sponsored by the American Ambulance Association. The week celebrates and honors the service and heroic efforts of all medics across the US.