



News Release

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For Release: IMMEDIATE

Sunrise Fire Rescue Earns CAAS Accreditation

(SUNRISE, FL)- - The City of Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department has received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) for its compliance with national standards of excellence.

Sunrise Fire-Rescue became the 167th emergency medical services (EMS) provider in the country to successfully complete the voluntary review process, which included completion of a comprehensive application and on-site review by national EMS experts. With this achievement, Sunrise Fire-Rescue became only the second EMS provider in South Florida to be accredited by CAAS, after the Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Fire-Rescue.

CAAS is a non-profit organization which was 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. This is accomplished 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. The Commission's standards often exceed state or local licensing requirements.

Sunrise Fire-Rescue Chief Thomas DiBernardo said accreditation "represents our firm commitment to our patients and community. We continuously strive to do our best and we viewed accreditation as another step toward excellence."

"Our staff has been key to our successful completion of the process. I think it gives the feeling of prestige and pride to work in an accredited ambulance service," said Deputy Fire Chief Todd Draizin. "Everyone here played a valuable role in our ability to meet the Commission's high standards. We have achieved accreditation but I believe it can only be a stimulus for continued improvement."

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