

Okaloosa County News Release

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OKALOOSA EMS CHIEF PRESENTED STATE EMS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Okaloosa County Emergency Medical Services Chief Al Herndon, was awarded the prestigious Mark Fingeret Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Award for Administrative Leadership and Excellence in EMS. “Al definitely deserves this recognition, and his experience and contribution to Okaloosa County Public Safety is exceptional,” stated Public Safety Director Dino Villani. “He will be hard to replace, later this year, when he retires.”

Awarded by the Florida Association of County EMS (FACEMS), this honor recognizes the nearly four decades of leadership and contributions Herndon has provided to pre-hospital care in Okaloosa County and throughout Florida. FACEMS board of directors and the Florida Bureau Chief of Emergency Medical Oversight presented the award on July 17th at the Caribe Royale in Orlando.

Al Herndon became Okaloosa County EMS Chief in 2000. He began his career in Jacksonville in 1974 and became one of the first paramedics in the state in 1977. He has worked for Bradford County Rescue, Alachua County Fire Rescue in Gainesville, Charlotte County Fire EMS and served with the Bureau of EMS as the Investigations Supervisor and State EMS Training Coordinator before coming to Okaloosa County. Herndon served as an executive board member for the Florida Association of County EMS (FACEMS) organization and other EMS advisory council committees including board membership of the Florida Council of EMS Chiefs.

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