



"The Ultimate Sacrifice"

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National EMS Memorial Service announces
the National EMS Memorial Project

Oilville, VA - The National EMS Memorial Service today announced the kick-off of the "National EMS Memorial Project." The goal of this project is to build a permanent, outdoor "Tree of Life" memorial to honor those EMS providers who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives in the line of duty.

While the groundwork for this effort has been ongoing for more than 2 years now, the recent closing of the To The Rescue Museum in Roanoke, Virginia, which housed the Service's memorial exhibit, "The Tree of Life," and the uncertainty regarding it's future, have made this matter a priority for the organization.

"Our previous efforts centered around defining the criteria for the location, with our focus being on the families of our honorees. The Memorial exists for many reasons, primarily to honor our fallen comrades, but the families of these brave men and women are always in the forefront of our decision making process." said Kevin Agard, the project's chairman and National EMS Memorial Service Board Member. "Our site selection criteria was developed to assure attending the Service is as easy as possible for the families, friends and co-workers of our honorees."

Because the Project wishes to move as rapidly as possible, with an eye to a 2010 unveiling, this effort will be conducted in 4 phases, with the first 2 phases running concurrently:

1. Identify and acquire a suitable tract of land for the Memorial.
2. Design concept solicitation and selection.
3. Fund-raising.
4. Construction.

The National EMS Memorial Project seeks the assistance of the national EMS community in bringing this project to fruition. Committees will be formed to achieve the goals of each of the phases listed above. Anyone interested in serving on one or more of these committees is asked to contact Kevin Agard at 201-896-3862 or pio@nemsms.org.

Other stakeholders and interested parties may keep up to date by visiting our web site at <http://memorial.nemsms.org>

And/or by joining the Project's mailing list by sending a blank email to memorial-subscribe@nemsms.org

Those wishing to submit a location for consideration as the new home of the National EMS Memorial and the National EMS Memorial Service keep the following criteria in mind:

- Within a 60 minute drive of a major hub airport.
- Location suitable for quiet reflection and remembrance.
- Within 10- 15 minutes of large hotel(s).
- Reasonably level and "accessible" property.
- House(s) of worship nearby.
- Reasonable access to utilities (electricity, water, sewage)

In addition to the above, any location seeking consideration should also have significant support from the local EMS community. The National EMS Memorial Service relies heavily on the local EMS community for the volunteers necessary to carry out the annual Memorial Service.

Anyone wishing to submit a location or design concept for consideration should send them to:

National EMS Memorial Project
PO Box 6604
Carlstadt, NJ 07072-0604

Please bear in mind that all designs should incorporate the "Tree of Life" and "Oak Leaf" concepts. All submissions become the property of the National EMS Memorial Service.

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