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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2008

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### Governor's Emergency Medical Service Awards announced

(Anchorage, Alaska) — The Governor's Annual Awards for Emergency Medical Services, sponsored by the Alaska Council on Emergency Medical Services, were announced at the opening session of the annual State Emergency Medical Services Symposium on Friday, Nov. 14. Awards will be presented the evening of Nov. 15 at the 31st Annual Alaska EMS Awards Banquet at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage. Award recipients are:

- **EMS Citizen Award:** Larry Eggart of Nome — in recognition of two decades of courageous life-saving rescue as an Alaskan bush pilot.
- **EMS Provider of the Year Award:** Virgie Hartley-McKeown of Willow — in recognition of forty years of dedicated EMS service to the community.
- **EMS Educator Award:** MariBeth Buechel of Unalaska — in recognition of two decades of outstanding professionalism and excellence as an EMS educator.
- **George H. Longenbaugh Memorial Award:** Karen O'Neill, M.D. of Nome — in recognition of 33 years of leadership and dedicated service to the Norton Sound Region and to the people of the State of Alaska.
- **Melissa Ann Peters Memorial Award:** Mary Baker-Kaspari, R.N. of Delta Junction — in recognition of two decades of support and encouragement of EMS personnel.
- **Outstanding Ambulance Service Award:** Delta Rescue Squad of Delta Junction — in recognition of the dedication of the all-volunteer squad in serving a geographic area of 12,000 square miles with response times of up to 6 hours.
- **Special Commendation:** Teresa Markham of Bethel — in recognition of her positive attitude, passion and enthusiasm as a valuable EMS educator.

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