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MISSOURI EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

2025 EMS Day on the Hill - Washington, D.C.

Justin Duncan Receives National Recognition



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The National EMS Association (NAEMT) is pleased to announce that Washington County Ambulance District Chief Executive Officer and Missouri EMS Association President, Justin Duncan, has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 EMS Advocate of the Year Award. He was recognized by his colleagues and peers at the EMS on the Hill Day Briefing on 2 April 2025 in Washington, DC.

Chief Duncan was nominated for this prestigious award in recognition of his exceptional leadership, advocacy, and contributions to the EMS profession. His efforts have focused on building relationships with elected officials, educating stakeholders, and empowering EMS professionals nationwide.

Rural Missouri has experienced an advancement in mobile healthcare in recent years. Chief Duncan has long been a visionary leader in this innovative form of healthcare. As the Chief Executive Officer of the Washington County Ambulance District, President of the Missouri EMS Association and President of the Sho-Me MIH Network, Justin has been a tireless advocate for advancing EMS and mobile healthcare systems, especially in rural communities. His work aligns with his strong advocacy for policy and legislative changes that benefit the healthcare system as a whole.

Serving as the Chair of the Missouri State Advisory Council for EMS, Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Sub-Committee and is the Chair of the NAEMT Economics Committee, Chief Duncan is a recognized subject matter expert for the National Rural Healthcare Association's Government Affairs Committee. Justin is known for his innovative approach and bold ideas; he has earned a reputation as a disruptor in both EMS and healthcare.

Chief Duncan has played an instrumental role in educating policy makers and stakeholders on the importance of EMS as an essential healthcare service. His advocacy has been critical in shaping policy that drives innovation in patient care, particularly in rural regions, and ensuring that EMS professionals are recognized as integral healthcare providers. A passionate advocate, Justin encourages his peers to engage in grassroots advocacy efforts and recognizes the power of a unified voice to influence legislative change. His involvement with various organizations locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally has fostered a culture of advocacy, urging EMS professionals to not only stay informed but to actively participate in shaping the future of mobile healthcare systems.

With an emphasis on servant leadership, Justin ensures that his teams have the resources and support they need to succeed. His expertise spans stakeholder engagement, government relations, policy and regulation, team development, and EMS-based healthcare programs. A tireless advocate for EMS professionals, Justin is dedicated to improving healthcare access and outcomes, particularly in rural areas, through innovation and collaboration.

Chief Duncan's recognition as a lifelong advocate for EMS professionals and integrated healthcare systems make him a deserving recipient of this honor. His work continues to drive changes within EMS and healthcare, ensuring that EMS clinicians are recognized for their crucial role in the healthcare system and pushing the boundaries of patient care.

