

“Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE”

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**Morristown Hamblen EMS
& East Tennessee Children’s Hospital Pediatric Critical Care Transport Team**

Nashville, TN--- Tuesday, May 11th Morristown Hamblen EMS and East Tennessee Children’s Hospital Pediatric Critical Care Transport Team accompanied by one of their survivors, six year old Zachary Seals, and his family drove to Nashville to be recognized at the Star of Life Awards Ceremony presented by Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children. The ceremony presented actual patient scenarios and reunited the EMS caregivers with the individuals they treated from the eight EMS regions across the state.

Region 2 Award Winners - Morristown Hamblen EMS & East Tennessee Children’s Hospital Pediatric Critical Care Transport Team
Jason Fox, EMT-P
Joseph Cate, EMT-IV
James Purkey, EMT-P, Critical Care
Alex Stiner, EMT-IV
Nichole Horner, EMT-IV
Alyson Walker-Glover, CCRN
Eric Ayers, RN-EMT
Darlene Finch, RT
Greg Bohanan, EMT-IV
Spencer Tracy Smith, Dispatcher
Justin Crowther, Dispatcher

At 11:00 pm on February 23, 2009 Morristown Hamblen EMS were dispatched to the home of a 5-year-old having an asthma attack. While responding to the call, the crew7 discussed that this would either be a simple call with very little to it, or it would be a bad call with the child in true distress. Exiting the ambulance, they could hear the child’s audible respirations. They knew then that it wasn’t going to be a simple call.

As the transport continued one of a paramedic’s biggest fears came true, due to the spasms from the asthma attack, they were unable to successfully intubate the child. At this point, they had arrived in the ambulance bay at Morristown Hamblen Hospital, just as the patient’s heart rate began to slow and eventually stop. The child had gone into cardiac arrest. They immediately began resuscitation efforts, and with effective CPR and medication administration were able to quickly return the child’s pulse. They continued to assist the patient’s ventilation with a bag-

valve-mask and moved the patient into Morristown Hamblen Hospital. During the child's ED visit, he was successfully intubated and arrangements were made to transfer him to East Tennessee Children's Hospital via their Critical Care Transport Team. Zachary Seals was admitted to the Pediatric Care Unit and discharged home 2 days later in excellent condition and with no restrictions for play or other activities.

The Star level sponsors for this year's EMS Star of Life are Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt and Emergency Mobile Healthcare, LLC.

The mission of Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children Foundation, the host of the EMS Star of Life, is to ensure that every child in Tennessee receives the best pediatric emergency care in order to eliminate the effects of severe illness and injury.

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