



PRESS RELEASE

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CETRONIA AMBULANCE CORPS HOSTS STATE REPRESENTATIVE RYAN MACKENZIE FOR AMBULANCE RIDE-ALONG DURING NATIONAL EMS WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, ALLENTOWN, PA - Cetronia Ambulance Corps welcomed State Representative Ryan Mackenzie (R-Berks/Lehigh) to participate in an ambulance ride-along in celebration of National EMS Week on Monday, May 20th.

Representative Mackenzie joined the emergency response crew of Jeffrey Nutche, NREMT-P and Michele Lukitsch, EMT to experience firsthand the critical role that EMS providers play in emergency and pre-hospital care, as well as disaster and emergency preparedness. “I appreciated the opportunity to ride along with the Cetronia Ambulance Corps and see firsthand the great skill and professionalism they exhibit when responding to crises,” said Mackenzie. “What I saw further underscores the vital role EMS personnel and all first responders play in our community, and I will continue to advocate on their behalf at the Capitol.”

This year, National EMS Week is celebrated from May 19th – 25th and is centered on the theme “EMS: One Mission, One Team.” EMS Week brings together local communities and healthcare providers to create awareness around public health and safety, as well as honor the dedication of those who provide the life-saving care and services as medicines “front line”. It is an opportunity for the public to recognize what EMS professionals do every day and to educate the public on how, when and why they need to utilize emergency services.

Cetronia’s goal of hosting a legislative ride-along is to educate legislators about the emergency preparedness and response needs of the community, as well as provide knowledge about the local impact efforts in Harrisburg have directly on the fiscal stability of the EMS system. It is also designed to demonstrate how wisely executed system design can efficiently utilize Medicare

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and homeland security funding for ambulance services to improve healthcare and save lives. “It is essential for our legislators to support community-based ambulance services, such as Cetronia, so that they have the capacity to respond to not only public health and safety threats, but to individual medical emergencies and serve the medical transportation needs of the communities we serve,” said Larry Wiersch, Chief Executive Officer of Cetronia Ambulance Corps.

Cetronia Ambulance Corps, founded in 1955, is a non-profit, 501(c)3 community based emergency medical services provider prominently located in the Lehigh Valley. Cetronia Ambulance Corps is one of the largest providers of ambulance services in Eastern Pennsylvania; employing 125 full and part time career associates, 20 active volunteers and boasting a total fleet of 32 vehicles, including 18 ambulances, 11 para-transit vehicles, a supervisor’s vehicle, medicar and a special operations unit. Cetronia provides basic and advanced life support ambulance, para-transit, wheelchair, and stretcher van services to serve the communities emergency medical service and medical transportation needs. Cetronia Ambulance Corps is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) for its superior care, rapid response and performance excellence and is the only nationally accredited EMS agency in Eastern Pennsylvania, one of only seven in the state and one of only 144 in the nation. As the regional leader in High Performance EMS, Cetronia Ambulance Corps receives over 44,000 requests for service annually, covering an emergency service area that spans across 108 square miles and a non-emergency coverage area that encompasses seven counties. Cetronia Ambulance Corps provides Health on Wheels™ and is dedicated to saving lives and partnering with community every day.

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