

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

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EMS Recognizes Children for Giving 'Right Care When It Counts'

On May 23, MIEMSS honored five children and teens; each had assisted in providing a life-saving service to someone. Their actions had ensured that people had received the "right care when it counts." Brian R. Moe (Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State), representing Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, assisted with the ceremony, joining MIEMSS Executive Director Robert R. Bass, MD, FACEP, EMS Board Chairman Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Cyndy Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMS for Children Program Director at MIEMSS), and Dr. Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Associate State EMS Director for Pediatrics at MIEMSS).

The following received special certificates for "giving the right care when it counts." Unfortunately, Jacob Miller, Camden Casey, and Devon Taylor were unable to attend, so their photos are not available.

Jacob Miller (Allegany County): On April 27, 2006, Jacob Miller awoke to hear his mother yelling "the house is on fire." Then 13 years old, Jacob ran into his one-year-old brother's bedroom, grabbed him, and started down the stairs. Within moments the stairs collapsed under them both, yet neither Jacob nor his brother was hurt and they made their way outside to safety.

Camden Casey (Washington County): On February 10, 2006, Camden Casey (then 5 years old) heard his baby brother crying—but this time their mother did not go to the baby. Because his family had prepared him, Camden knew to go find his mother and when she could not respond due to a diabetic crisis, Camden picked up the phone and dialed "9-1-1." The dispatchers were very surprised when Camden not only asked for help but also knew his address and what was wrong with his mother—her blood sugar was low.

Devon Taylor (Baltimore County): Late last fall, Devon Taylor was at the right place and knew the right actions to take to save his 9-year-old sister Dejae. She had been blowing out a candle when her long hair caught on fire. Devon, then 12 years old, immediately helped his sister to "Stop, Drop and Roll." When the flames were out, he sprayed her with cold water and called both 9-1-1 and his mom. While waiting for the ambulance, Devon put his sister into a cool-water tub to stop the burning process. Dejae was treated at the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Burn Center.

Charles Hudson (Wicomico County): One afternoon this past winter, 12-year-old Charlie Hudson was riding home on the school bus when he heard other children shouting and realized that 8-year-old Dylan was

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Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board), Brian R. Moe (Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State), award winner Charlie Hudson, Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS).

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choking—he was already blue. Charlie immediately went to Dylan on the bus and performed the Heimlich maneuver twice. Dylan coughed up the candy and began to breath. Charlie had learned this life-saving action from reading a poster while waiting in the lunch line at Pittsville Middle School.

Alize Spry (Montgomery County): On February 3, 2007, Alize (12 years old) heard the smoke alarm go off. She found her four younger siblings and dialed “9-1-1.” Smoke in the house made it impossible for them to go down the stairs, so Alize listened to the dispatcher's instructions. She made sure all her siblings were in one room, placed a sheet at the bottom of the door to the hall, and described their location so firefighters could reach them through a window. Alize's family previously had practiced home fire escapes, so Alize knew exactly what to do.



Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board), Brian R. Moe (Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State), Lisa Arceneaux, PhD (Johns Hopkins Pediatric Center) who accepted the award for Devon Taylor, Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS).



(Front row) Award winner Alize Spry with sister Layla and brother Freddie. (Back row, 1r) Chief Thomas Carr (Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service), Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board), Brian R. Moe (Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State), Fire Captain William Richards (EMD who answered Alize's 9-1-1 call), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), and Alize's parents Mr. & Mrs. Fred Spry holding their twin daughters.

MIEMSS, Maryland EMS News

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**Governor Martin O'Malley
Lt. Governor Anthony Brown**

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