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Lisa Lewis Named Georgia's Emergency Medical Service Educator of the Year

Dallas, Georgia – June 14, 2021– Paulding County Fire & Rescue's own Lisa Lewis has been named the 2021 "EMS Educator of the Year" by the State of Georgia Office of EMS & Trauma - Region 1.

Under the direction of Chief Joey Pelfrey, PCFD's long-range strategic plan calls for expansion and improvement of the department's emergency medical care capability. In order to fulfill those lofty goals, Chief Pelfrey realized he needed a strong and experienced individual with a passion for EMS. Although there were many candidates for the job, one individual's name was repeatedly recommended – Lisa Lewis.

As soon as she was hired, less than 3 years ago, Lisa launched PCFD's own in-house EMS EMT program, began work to certify Fire personnel at least as Advanced EMT's, and began working towards earning PCFD's licensure & deliver Advanced Life Support (ALS) services.

In 2020, PCFD was honored as the EMS Service of the year - the first-ever Fire Department licensed as a "first responder" agency to earn this prestigious award, and Lisa Lewis played an instrumental role in making it happen.

Lisa, a highly experienced & respected paramedic and teacher, has 17 years of experience in emergency medical service. Not only has she created a top-of-the-line EMS education program – including an unprecedented National Registry pass rate above 80%, Lisa also put Paulding County on track to launch the department's very first Advanced Life Support (ALS) capabilities within just a few months.

Chief Joey Pelfrey commented, "Our Department responds to roughly 17,000 emergency 911 calls per year and 75% of those are medical in nature. So continuing to improve the quality medical care for our citizens is extremely important. Lisa has been a key to helping us grow in these areas. I am proud of her and the outstanding job nearly 200 Paulding County Fire & Rescue employees do 7 days per week, 24 hours per day, and 365 days per year. It is a privilege for all of us to serve the citizens of Paulding County."

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