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## **KAY AND WRIGHT NAMED EMS EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR**

Newton, NC— Catawba County EMS recently announced its Employees of the Year for 2011. Sharing the honor this year are Noel Kay and Andrew Wright. The two were bestowed the award on July 9, 2012 at Newton EMS Base.



Noel Kay currently serves as Shift Supervisor over D shift, responsible for overseeing operational activities of his shift, including coordinating general maintenance of units and bases, completing necessary paperwork, and dissemination of supplies and equipment. He also participates in the Management Team. Since taking this position, he has taken over ordering of supplies for the organization, and has implemented a system to both streamline the process and reduce costs. Kay was named to the Shift Supervisor position in 2010, and previously served as a Crew Chief and Field Training Officer.

In his nomination, Kay is described as a leader who, “works well with all parties involved in any situation to come to a satisfactory resolution to any problem or circumstance, while maintaining a positive attitude toward all. He addresses issues with his staff in a manner that defines professionalism.”

Kay has worked for Catawba County EMS since 1993.

When asked his thoughts on being named Employee of the Year, Kay said, “It has always been my opinion that an award such as this is not the result of one person's efforts in one year, but rather a result of many people's efforts for many years. My thanks go out to all those whom I have worked with over the last 19 years for teaching me something along the way. “



Andrew Wright is the Training Officer for EMS, where his responsibilities include developing and managing the continuing education program for the EMS system. He oversees the quality management program, investigates medical complaints, trains new employees and works with current employees to keep credentials current. Wright serves on local, state and regional EMS training committees and responds to emergency calls.

Prior to taking this position in 2010, Wright served as Chief Trainer for Specialty Services and was responsible for coordinating monthly training and evaluation of all shift members, in addition to performing all the skills and duties of an EMT-Paramedic and Field Training Officer. He continues to serve as a member of the Catawba County Haz-Mat, State Medical Assistance, Tactical Medic, Injury Prevention, Special Events and PR & Marketing Teams.

The unnamed employee who nominated Wright wrote, “Rarely someone comes to EMS that can provide an impact during most of their tenure. I believe Andy is one of those people. Andy’s contributions to EMS and his commitment and dedication to professionalism make him someone that represents all that is good in our job and provides a role model for those beginning their career in EMS.”

Wright dedicated himself to a career in EMS at just 16, when he began volunteering, and then started as an EMS employee in 2001. Said Wright of the award, “I just try to help out and do what I can, whenever I can. I appreciate the consideration and I am humbled and honored to receive the award for a second time.”