



KEY LARGO EMS ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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“EXCELLENCE THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE”

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Key Largo Volunteer Ambulance Corps is to provide excellent, professional and compassionate medical care for our community.

Our Vision

- It is the goal of Key Largo Vol. Ambulance Corps to provide the highest level of care to the citizens and visitors of Key Largo.
- To create an environment that will help our members further their goals.
- Making a difference... one patient at a time

Our Values

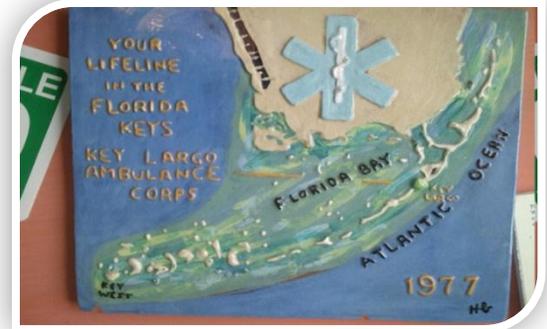
- **Safety:** Safety in our Operations and in our Community through education, through training and leading by example.
- **Professionalism:** To be viewed in the eyes of our community as professionals both on and off duty.
- **Caring & Compassion:** Being supportive of our patients and their families, our members, friends and neighbors through teamwork.
- **Advocacy:** Performing in the best interests of our patients, our community, our Corps and its members.
- **Progressive:** To be known as a quality organization focusing on training, mentoring best practices, and community relations.
- **Teamwork:** Through teamwork, there is no failure. We always look forward and learn from the past.

Key Largo EMS Funding

- KLVAC is a non-profit 501.c.3 Corporation.
- KLVAC is funded by property taxes collected and budgeted by the Key Largo Fire & EMS District, revenue generated from “billing patients for transport services” and through donations.

History of the Department:

In 1955 the Ladies Auxiliary of the Key Largo Volunteer Fire Department formed a “Band- Aid Brigade”. This continued until 1971 when they were formally named Key Largo Volunteer Ambulance Corps., Incorporated. A few years later KLVAC became the first Volunteer EMS service in the state to be granted an ALS license, thanks to the hard work of Doris Kemp and her colleagues. In 1974 the Corps. moved into their new EMS station located at the 98.6 mm. This building was built by volunteers and members of the community with money from donations.



1991 KLVAC became a hybrid system with a few paid paramedics & mostly volunteer EMT's/ First responders. New crew quarters and ambulance garage were built on the north end of the station (with money from patient transfer billing & donations from the community) in 2004.

The Key Largo Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District was established on June 8, 2005 when Governor Bush approved Florida Statute 2005-329 that created the 68th Special Taxing District in the State of Florida.

Today Key Largo Vol. Ambulance Corps is an ALS service with 4 Rescue trucks, 2 of which run 24/7. Current membership is approximately 35 - 40 personnel including Paramedics and EMT's.



Board of Directors of Key Largo EMS

2018-2019

President- Scott Robinson- EMT, Deputy Chief of Administration, Member of KLVAC member since 1997.

Vice President- Dawn DeBrule- Owner of Upper Keys Marine Construction, resident since 1990, Board member for Key Largo Chamber of Commerce for six years and is actively involved in the community and is a former volunteer EMT.

Board of Director – Brenda Beckmann- EMT-P, RN, starting in 1991 she has been a Volunteer for 27 years, teaching EMT class for the community college. She was also a past president.

Treasure- Tess Marra, EMT, member since 2006, resident of Monroe County since 1982, CPR instructor.

Director – Ken Edge, EMT Joined Key Largo Volunteer Ambulance in 1991. Recently retired from Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority. Currently still volunteering in KLVAC. Past Vice President, and treasurer prior to that. Current Treasurer with the Key Largo Volunteer Fire Dept. Hobbies are scuba diving, and horseback riding. Member of Texas Equine search for missing people

Chief, Donald Bock, EMT-P, KLVAC member since 1995, Monroe County Resident since 1970. He joined Key Largo Volunteer Fire in 1976 and has been involved in both paid and volunteer fire rescue services ever since.

Leadership

Chief of Key Largo EMS: Donald Bock

Deputy Chief of Operations: TBA

Deputy Chief of Administration: Scott Robinson

Corporate Secretary: Pam Johnson

Office Manager: Betsy ElKoury

Medical Director: Dr. Thomas Steed

EMS Captain: Pedro Marin

Logistics Officer: Lt. Adam Schussheim

Training Officer: Lt. Roxana Perez

Quality and Assurance Officer: Jesus Miranda

Safety Officer: Ken Edge

Infection Control Officer: Brenda Beckmann

Scheduling Officers: Lt. Roxana Perez and Tess Marra



Chief of the Department: Chief Donald Bock



Deputy Chief of Administration: Scott Robinson



EMS Captain: Pedro Marin

Quality Assurance

- Q/A Officer, Jesus Miranda, reviews run reports monthly to ensure accuracy and quality control. He works alongside the training officer and the Medical Director to ensure that proper protocols are being followed.



Q/A Officer: Jesus Miranda

Training

- Training Officer, Lt. Roxana Perez duties are to assist with coordination of and training the members of KLVAC.
- In addition to the two training meetings a month she has added monthly online continuing education requirements for both paid paramedics and volunteers. By completing CEU's monthly, it will fulfill mandatory State hours to renew certifications and keep our members up to date with any new medical advances and ready for any emergency coming their way.
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- ACLS, PALS PHTLS, CPR, Stroke, Advance Airway
- In service training on all newly purchased equipment
- Training from outside instructors that teach specialties from other departments.
- We have new training equipment which provides a more life-like hands-on training for the members
- Implemented new online training via EMS1 Academy for all members.



Training Officer: Lt. Roxana Perez

Safety Officer



Kenny Edge

Logistics Officer



Lt. Adam Schussheim

Infection Control Officer



Brenda Beckmann

Recruitment Process

Key Largo EMS currently has a total of 40 members which include 3 Full-time paramedics, 12 Part-time paramedics and a total of 25 volunteers which all hold an EMT or paramedic certifications. In 2019 Key Largo EMS welcomed 12 new volunteer EMT/Paramedics and lost 15 members to surrounding departments. Potential candidates are required to do a written test, demonstrate hands-on skills and this is followed by an oral interview. New hires are welcomed during an orientation period where they are introduced to the department and given all materials needed to prepare them for their first day on duty. During a new member's first month they are required to complete 4 training shifts, a training packet outlining department operations and hands-on skills. Once the training period is completed they are eligible to petition the Board for reimbursement.



Yearly Statistics

Key Largo EMS responds to any emergency from the 112mm to the 95mm our fleet includes 2 ALS ambulances stationed at the 98mm. As our community continues to grow emergencies are inevitable and we are prepared and equipped to help our community along with our Key Largo Fire Department. In 2019 Key Largo EMS had an average response time of 5.1 min and a total of 1446 calls and 109 back up calls. Back up calls are when our second unit is activated to respond to secondary calls as our primary unit may already be out in the field responding to a medical emergency.



In order to protect our patient’s privacy Key Largo EMS does not take any action images during medical emergencies. Above you will find our crews sharpening their skills while on downtime by creating real life like scenarios in order to continue providing excellent care.

Calls For Service Highlights



Trauma Alerts-19



Pediatric- 24



Cardiac Arrests- 8



ALS - 689



BLS - 282



Standby - 9



Back Up - 109



Fire - 4

Services

Public Assist

In addition to the regular calls, Key Largo EMS responded to an additional 302 calls that consisted of stand by and public assistance, "Public assists" are calls for service where the department helps people that are not in need of medical help; they need assistance into their home, down their stairs or to be picked up from the floor after a slip or fall.

Training/Education

KLVAC is a satellite campus for FKCC and EEII, training First Responders, EMTs, and Paramedics. CPR and first aid are also taught to the community.



Public Naloxone (Narcan) Program

The department has a Narcan program that provides a free kit to the citizens of Key Largo. These free kits allow members of the public to give opioid overdose victims medication to help reverse their opioid overdose in an emergency situation.



Challenges

- It was a difficult year when it came to maintaining the vehicles. Several unexpected repairs made it a challenge to keep our fleet operational.
- Maintaining the right personnel in the best positions to help our department grow and move forward is one of the department's top goals.
- Key Largo EMS has always been a training ground for EMS personnel allowing them to gain experience. This makes the personnel more desirable as a potential employee should they decide to further their career.

Equipment

- In 2019 a grant was secured to receive two new Ultrasound units which help with in-field diagnosis of traumatic injuries.



Uniforms

- In addition to the regular uniforms, Key Largo EMS designed an off-duty shirt that members can purchase to show their pride.



Achievements

- Protocols have been updated and are now in digital format thus helping us save money in printing services.
- Key Largo EMS held a Boot Drive to
- held the residence in the Bahamas after t
- he devastation due to the hurricane.
- The Boot Drive raised \$2,600.00 and all the money went to help the Bahamas.



Awards

This year we have personalized some of our awards to reflect and preserve some of our department's history. Key Largo EMS introduced the Doris Kemp Award formerly known as the Years of Service award. This award is presented to members who have shown their dedication and commitment to our community throughout the years in honor of our pioneer Doris Kemp.

In addition to the name change of the award, we have adopted a common slogan used in 1974 to describe the KLVAC department as the "Keepers of the Key". We believe it is important to conserve and acknowledge our history as we move forward toward becoming a career department with our new addition of Lieutenants.

As we acknowledge our past, we cannot forget our future. This year we are pleased to announce an EMS Advancement Award to those who have gone above and beyond and have shown their dedication and growth in the EMS profession. Our members are key to our success as excellent health care providers who consistently train to continue providing excellent patient care. As the medical profession is constantly evolving, our members have shown true commitment to their profession by not only training in our department but also attending further EMS courses to advance their careers. Doing so brings invaluable knowledge to our department in order to better serve the community.

Last but not least we applaud and praise our Paramedics and Volunteer of the year. Our members had the chance to recognize one of their own by voting for the most deserving Volunteer to receive this award. Our very own Chief Bock and Deputy Chief of Admin. Scott Robinson hand-picked our Paramedic of the year. Key Largo EMS would like to applaud and congratulate **EMT Justin Otomo** as our Volunteer of the Year and **Paramedic Adam Schussheim** along with **Paramedic Roxana Perez** as our Paramedics of the Year. These members have shown exemplary behavior in their profession and camaraderie with their peers and are a true asset to our department.



Doris Kemp, Chris Duffe, Claire Martin (l. to r.) approx. 1980



Promotions

This past year Key Largo EMS recognized a few of our well-deserved members. We are proud to announce the promotion of two full-time Paramedics to Department Lieutenants. **Lt Adam Schusheim** and **Lt Roxana Perez** have shown excellent leadership skills in their positions as Logistics Officer and Training Officer in our department.

Phoenix Award

Key Largo EMS presented responders with the Phoenix Award for their lifesaving actions during a call last December. This award recognizes outstanding treatment of a patient in cardiac arrest who makes a full recovery. The following are recipients of this prestigious award:

Paramedic Luis Tuero

Paramedic Oscar Pinzon

EMT Justin Otomo

EMT Scott Robinson



Future of Department

- Our community is our first priority. We are striving to roll out a community outreach program where we can help inform the public on how to identify critical emergencies and what they can do to help before emergency personnel arrive. When seconds count, working together and staying informed matters most.
- After updating our medical protocols, our next goal is to see where we can improve our SOPs. This will help our organization to pave the way for the future, which ultimately helps us provide excellent patient care and improve community involvement. We hope to obtain more grants to help move this organization forward. Having State-of-the-Art equipment, vehicles and high quality personnel; Key Largo EMS is setting its sights higher for years to come.
- Through teamwork comes success. Working together with the Key Largo Fire and EMS District and the Key Largo Volunteer Fire Department, we are dedicated to make Key Largo a safer place for the citizens and visitors to work and enjoy.



"KEEPERS OF THE KEY"

Please wear facial covering, wash your hands frequently, use hand sanitizer and maintain social distancing. This helps everyone by reducing the spread of COVID-19.