



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 2020

ST. CHARLES COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL SELECTED FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINER OF THE YEAR AWARD

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – Brian Garms, Training and Quality Assurance Officer for the St. Charles County Emergency Communications Department, was selected for the 2020 Trainer of the Year Award by NICE Public Safety. Garms was honored as part of NICE’s annual Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP)’s Finest Awards. Winners are selected by a panel of volunteer judges from the public safety community who evaluated nominees based on accomplishments, skills, knowledge and dedication. Recipients will be recognized on a date to be determined in a special virtual awards presentation on NICE’s social media ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)).



“I am grateful to be part of a department and public safety community that recognizes the care and effort involved with our profession,” Garms says. “It’s a reflection of the support I receive from the department as a whole and the teamwork it takes to ensure dispatchers, first responders and citizens can connect safely in emergencies.”

Garms started working with St. Charles County in January 2014 as a fire and EMS dispatcher before switching to his role as Training and Quality Assurance Officer in 2018. His duties include planning and teaching police, fire and EMS Dispatch Academies; training new hires; coordinating continuing education; and updating evaluation methods, presentations and training manuals. Garms assists with policy and procedure development and organizing training related to software updates. In addition to instructor and quality assurance certifications, Garms is certified as an Emergency Number Professional (ENP) and in the Center Manager Certification Program (CMCP).

“Brian is certainly an asset to our department and the dispatch field,” says Jeff Smith, Director of St. Charles County Emergency Communications. “This recognition showcases his dedication to his work and to sharing his expertise with others.”

Emergency Communications provides dispatching services for all fire and EMS agencies within St. Charles County, the St. Charles County Police Department, and the St. Charles County Sheriff’s Department, and serves the community as one of six dispatching centers and 911 answering points located in the county.

Earlier in 2020, Emergency Communications was awarded Public Safety Communications Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA®). It is only the third public safety communications department in the St. Louis area, and the fourth in the state, to receive this prestigious accreditation. In 2018, the Department of Emergency Communications was recognized as the world’s 252nd Medical Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. The department is one of 190 currently accredited ACE agencies recognized for exceptional use of emergency medical dispatch (EMD) protocols. Learn more about the department at sccmo.org/EmergencyCommunications.

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About St. Charles County:

Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state's third largest county in both population and economic share. It is home to 17 scenic county parks encompassing nearly 4,000 acres and additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.

With a population of 402,022, St Charles County is home to large employers including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit sccmo.org.