

Chris Baker
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Chief Ed Ward
Graeagle Fire Protection District
7620 Highway 89
Graeagle, CA 96103

September 8, 2010

Chief Ward,

I am writing in regards to the traffic collision that occurred on September 3rd on Highway 89 near Calpine. Recognition is in order for your crew and the crew of Eastern Plumas Healthcare Ambulance.

At approximately 1300 that day my wife and I wandered upon several civilians attending to what we later determined was a critical trauma case resulting from a motorcycle versus deer at highway speeds. Your agency responded in a short period of time given the remoteness of the area. It was a welcome sight to see that, in addition to the squad and your command vehicle at the scene performing patient care, you were able to respond additional engines and personnel for traffic control and stand by for a helispot.

The crew's performance of scene management, stabilization, patient care, and ultimately transportation for definitive care at the trauma center should not go unnoticed. From the perspective of a fellow paramedic and firefighter, it was clear that all crews performed in the most professional and efficient manner that likely saved this man's life. Its cases like this that teamwork, training, and dedication make the ultimate difference.

As frequent visitors to Graeagle, we always hear from residents what a wonderful job your agency performs for the community and how much your members give freely of their time and resources. They also understand the advanced life support capabilities of your agency are critical to positive outcomes, particularly in this rural area on calls such as this. I have now experienced this first-hand working with your members and can only echo the statement of the residents. Thanks to all you and your members do for the community as it is comforting and does not go unnoticed.

Sincerely,


Chris Baker