



WHEREAS, Gaston County EMS has received notification that they have again received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) for the agency's compliance with national standards of excellence; and,

WHEREAS, The Commission is a non-profit organization which was established to encourage and promote quality patient care in America's medical transportation system. The primary focus of the Commission's standards is high-quality patient care. This is accomplished by establishing national standards which not only address the delivery of patient care, but also the ambulance service's total operation and its relationships with other agencies, the general public, and the medical community; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County EMS was the first EMS agency in North Carolina to achieve accreditation in 1995 and has voluntarily maintained the evolving standards set by the Commission since that time. There is now a total of 6 EMS agencies in North Carolina and just 196 in the United States that are currently CAAS accredited; and,

WHEREAS, The reaccreditation process began in December of 2020 compiling the application and GEMS staff participated in a two-day virtual evaluation where CAAS evaluators interviewed employees, visited stations, inspected ambulances, and reviewed records. GEMS employees at every level played a considerable role in the agency's ability to meet the Commission's high standards and were influential to the successful completion of this process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes

***GASTON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ON CAAS
REACCREDITATION***

in Gaston County and call upon all citizens to observe this recognition.

Tom Keigher, Chairman

Chad Brown

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman

Tracy L. Philbeck

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley