

RURAL/METRO OF BUFFALO AWARDED HIGHEST INDUSTRY ACCREDIATION

BUFFALO, NY (Dec. 9, 2013) – Rural/Metro Medical Services of Western New York recently received a perfect score from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS), the "gold standard" for the ambulance industry.

Rural/Metro Medical Services is the only pre-hospital care provider in Western New York to successfully complete the voluntary review process which includes completing a comprehensive application and an on-site review by national experts in emergency medical services (EMS).

"I am proud of our team for continuing to provide this outstanding level of clinical and patient care," said Rural/Metro's Regional Director Jay Smith. "Receiving this accreditation with a perfect score shows not only that our organization is committed to excellence, but that our crews and support staff are among the best in the country. With this designation, we can confidentially state that we are the premiere EMS provider in Erie and Niagara Counties."

CAAS is a nonprofit organization established to promote high-quality patient care in America's medical transportation system. The CAAS designation means the provider has met national standards, often exceeding state or local requirements, for patient care and has relationships with other agencies, the general public and the medical community.

This "gold standard" has been determined by the ambulance industry to be essential in a modern emergency medical services provider. Rural/Metro operations in Buffalo, Syracuse and Rochester, are three of only four CAAS-accredited ambulance providers in New York State.

Rural/Metro and its more than 500 employees have served the citizens of Buffalo and surrounding communities with this level of industry-leading prehospital care for nearly 20 years. Rural/Metro Medical Services of Western New York received its first CAAS accreditation in 1995; one year after the company acquired the previous providers LaSalle Ambulance and Towns Ambulance Service.

Rural/Metro Medical Services of Western New York was also recently named the Emergency Medical Services Agency of the Year by the New York Department of Health.

For more information, visit <u>www.ruralmetronewyork.com</u>.

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Contact: Jay Smith, Regional Director Rural/Metro Medical Services

(716) 818-0678, Jay. Smith@rmetro.com