

April 30, 2019

## **Plano Fire-Rescue Once Again Achieves a “Gold Standard” EMS Accreditation**

On April 29, the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) awarded Plano Fire-Rescue *Accredited Agency* status for the seventh time since 1998. CAAS accreditation occurs every three years and proves that an EMS organization is driven to a standard that oftentimes exceeds what is required by local or state regulations. The independent review process validates that accredited agencies are adhering to the highest standards in the industry and is designed to help EMS agencies increase organizational performance and efficiency, increase clinical quality, and decrease risk and liability.

“I’m incredibly proud of our persistent commitment and efforts to doing our very best with emergency medical responses,” Fire Chief Sam Grief said Tuesday. “The CAAS Accreditation is just another affirmation of Plano’s overall commitment to excellence in all that we do.”

During the review process in early April several commissioners visited with Fire-Rescue representatives and analyzed more than 100 areas including standards for agency management, relations with outside agencies, clinical practices, community education and relations, risk management and communications/dispatch.

Plano Fire-Rescue is one of only ten EMS services in Texas to be CAAS accredited and one of 182 agencies accredited worldwide. More information on CAAS Accreditation can be found at [caas.org](http://caas.org).

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### **About Plano Fire-Rescue**

Plano Fire-Rescue is a progressive and recognized fire department providing both emergency services (fire suppression, emergency medical services, rescue, hazardous materials response, and wildland fire fighting) and non-emergency services (fire and life safety education, building fire protection systems engineering and review, fire code enforcement and community event support) from 13 strategically placed fire stations with a roster of 386 sworn personnel and 11 civilian employees. Plano Fire-Rescue holds a Class 1 ISO Rating, and accreditation from both the Center for Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) and the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS). With the goal of providing the best service to the citizens and visitors of Plano, the department mission/purpose statement includes the core values each employee strives to reflect, *Plano Fire-Rescue, Professional service with heart – integrity always*. Please visit [planofire.org](http://planofire.org).