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**Colleyville Fire Department Recognized for Saving Lives with  
American Heart Association Award**

**Colleyville, TX** – The Colleyville Fire Department has received the American Heart Association’s 2021 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Silver Plus Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures to treat patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

Over the last three years, Colleyville paramedics have saved 17 lives. These were patients who when the Colleyville Fire department came on scene were literally lifeless. Because of the paramedic’s heroic work, families were spared the loss of a loved one.

Each year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest type of heart attack, caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it is critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication.

“Colleyville Fire Department is honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to providing optimal care for heart attack patients,” said Chief Mark Cantrell. “The Mission: Lifeline program puts proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis so patients have the best possible chance of survival.”

The American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline program helps reduce barriers to prompt treatment for heart attacks – starting from when 9-1-1 is called, to EMS transport and continuing through hospital treatment and discharge. Optimal care for heart attack patients takes coordination between the individual hospital, EMS and healthcare system.

Program participants apply for the award recognition by demonstrating how their organization has committed to improving quality care for STEMI patients.

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