

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Proclamation

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK PROCLAMATION | 2026

- WHEREAS**, emergency medical services is an essential public service in Durham County; and
- WHEREAS**, the members of emergency medical services team are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and
- WHEREAS**, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and
- WHEREAS**, emergency medical services fills healthcare gaps by providing important, out-of-hospital care, including preventative medicine and follow-up care through our community paramedics; and
- WHEREAS**, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, paramedics, community paramedics, 911 telecommunicators, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out-of-hospital medical care providers; and
- WHEREAS**, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their patient care and lifesaving skills; and
- WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers in the Durham County emergency medical services system by designating Emergency Medical Services Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Mike Lee, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 17 – 23, 2026, as

“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK”

in Durham County and recognizing 2026 is the 52nd anniversary of EMS Week with the theme “*EMS WEEK: Improving Outcomes, Together*”. We call upon the community to observe this week with appropriate recognition of the vital and essential services provided by members of the Durham County emergency medical services system to care for our residents and visitors.

This 11th day of May 2026.

Dr. Mike Lee, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

