

# SHENANDOAH COUNTY



## NEWS RELEASE

Office of the County Administrator  
600 N. Main Street, Suite 102 Woodstock, VA 22664  
540-459-6165 FAX 540-459-6168  
[www.shenandoahcountyva.us](http://www.shenandoahcountyva.us)

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Media Contact: R. Jason Malloy, Director of Emergency Communications  
540-459-6323  
[jmalloy@shenandoahcountyva.us](mailto:jmalloy@shenandoahcountyva.us)

## Department of Emergency Communications Employee Receives State Award

WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA – A local public safety telecommunicator (9-1-1 dispatcher) has received an award for their outstanding contributions to the local, regional, and state Emergency Medical System (EMS) by Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe.

Jennifer A. Bowman of Star Tannery, was selected from nominees across Virginia to receive the 2016 Governor's EMS Awards. The awards were announced recently at a ceremony during the 37th Annual Virginia EMS Symposium held in Norfolk, Virginia.

Ms. Bowman, who is a shift supervisor for the Shenandoah County Department of Emergency Communications, received the 2016 Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Telecommunications. She has been a telecommunicator for Shenandoah County since 2000, and a shift supervisor since 2004. "We are the thin gold line that holds together the red, white and blue," said Jennifer of the award referring to the role public safety communicators hold in relation to fire, rescue and police first responders.

"We are lucky to have Jennifer as one of our employees," said R. Jason Malloy, Director of Emergency Communications. "She does her job well and she genuinely cares about the other first responders and the public that we are responsible for helping to protect day in and day out."

The Governor's EMS Awards recognizes eleven winners in various categories from across the Commonwealth. In addition, one \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to a high-school senior with outstanding contributions to EMS. Nominations are submitted from each of Virginia's eleven regional EMS councils. The awards were presented by Chief Deputy Health Commissioner Dr. Hughes Melton, State EMS Advisory Board Chairman Gary Critzer, and Office of Emergency Medical Services Director Gary Brown and Assistant Director Scott Winston.

Jennifer was nominated for the Governor's EMS Award by the Lord Fairfax EMS Council, the regional nonprofit that coordinates the regional EMS awards program and that leads regional EMS system planning and coordination activities throughout much of the northern Shenandoah Valley.

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