



PRESS RELEASE
JANUARY 18, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tim Hynes Foundation Names 2017 SMTA Scholarship Recipient

SNELLVILLE, GA. The Tim Hynes Foundation (THF) is proud to announce that Flight Paramedic Darrin Buchta, BS, NRP, FP-C, a Flight Paramedic/Base Safety Representative/Base Clinical Lead with Air Evac Lifeteam in Hardinsburg, KY is the 2017 recipient of the Foundation's Scholarship award to the Association of Air Medical Services, (AAMS) Safety Management Training Academy (SMTA).

The Scholarship is awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to enhance, promote and develop a culture of safety within their work environment. In Darrin's own essay he crafted as part of his scholarship application he says: *"Safety is not simply something that a company says they are or something that one person can do. Safety must be a culture and woven into each and every fabric of the company. Actions such as reinforcing responsibilities, advocating for the reporting of errors and near misses, and strictly adhering to a just culture without any severity bias are all ways that a culture of safety can be created."* The Foundation believes that the attitude and behaviors that Darrin describes about safety are at the center of making medical transportation safer. In a letter of support written by Darrin's supervisor, the concept of paramedic growth and the integration of safety were highlighted in two sentences: *"Too many times in our industry we think that you have to be a pilot to be the safety person... What we need is more people like Darrin who are passionate about safety and help them grow."*

Tim Hynes was an IAFCPP founding member who was passionate about his profession. He lost his life in a rescue mission in 1998. Through career development, access to education, and programs to improve leadership abilities, the Foundation pledges to carry on Tim's legacy as an advocate for the paramedic profession and is dedicated to reinforcing and advancing medical transport safety. The Foundation conducts fundraising events, such as annual golf outings and silent auctions to raise awareness and support for safety in the medical transport industry. These fundraisers are supported and attended by numerous air medical, critical care professionals and industry leaders as well as corporate sponsors. We are committed to safety in the medical transport community and is acknowledged through the financial support of campaigns, education, and through best practices that enhance safety every day. To find out more about how to become involved as a

sponsor, contact the Foundation headquarters at info@timhynesfoundation.org.

Darrin will attend the SMTA June 5 – 9, 2017, in Louisville, KY, as a first-year student. The Scholarship award covers tuition and housing for both years of the program allowing him to sit for the Certified Medical Transportation Safety Professional (MTSP-C) certification in 2018.

THE FOUNDATION IS A 501(C) (3) TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION SUPPORTED BY FELLOW PHILANTHROPIC DONATIONS.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

INFO@TIMHYNESFOUNDATION.ORG

TIM HYNES FOUNDATION

4835 RIVEREDGE COVE

SNELLVILLE, GA 30039

Foundation Sponsors

