



## *NEWS RELEASE*

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### EMS Hosts Open House of Wakulla Station EMS Building

Crawfordville, Florida – Emergency Medical Services will be hosting an Open House of the new Wakulla Station EMS Building on May 29, 2008 from 4:00p.m. – 6:30p.m.

Currently Wakulla County has two EMS stations. One is located in Medart and covers the southwestern end of the County. The other is in Crawfordville and covers the rest of the County. There are three crews on call full time with the third crew working between the two current stations, this new station will allow the crews to be at each station. “This is a wonderful improvement in health care. It places an ambulance 9.7 miles closer to the citizens on the eastern side of the County. I hope everyone will join us for the grand opening”, said Fran Councill, EMS Director.

Eight years ago the increasing call volume indicated a need to look into an additional station on the eastern side of the County. With approval from the Board of County Commissioners, a grant was applied for and obtained which allowed the purchase of one ambulance and salaries for staff. As grant matching funds were found, additional staff was gradually added until we reached the current third truck that is on duty full time. Two years ago the Board approved to build the third station. “The Board has taken great strides given the current budget constraints to support new initiatives and service improvements that improve public health and safety. Our EMS program continues to serve our citizens excellently. This new facility in Wakulla Station will result in quicker response times and improved public health outcomes for those most in need”, commented Benjamin Pingree, County Administrator.

The new Wakulla Station EMS Building is located at 3075 Shadeville Highway on the same County property that houses the Wakulla Station Volunteer Fire Department. All citizens are invited to attend.