

EMS Profile by John Green, EMT-I

# EMS Profile: Yorktown EMS

**Where we operate:** Yorktown, founded in 1848, is in DeWitt County, between San Antonio and Victoria. Yorktown has a population of about 2200 residents and is primarily a ranching/farming community.

**Years of service:** 23 Yorktown EMS was formed in 1989 after the existing private company didn't renew their contract with the city and county. An old grocery store was donated to Yorktown EMS in 1990. When the local doctor (also the medical director for Yorktown EMS) had to move facilities in 1992, half of the donated building was converted to become the new medical clinic for the city of Yorktown. The clinic was converted using volunteers and donations, which allowed the project to be completed debt-free. In 1995 rooms to house Yorktown EMS and the Cuero Health Department were constructed; as was a garage for the ambulances.

**Number of personnel:** 14 volunteers We currently operate with two EMT-I's, eight EMTs and four ECAs; including three EMS instructors and four CPR instructors.

**Number of units:** 2 We run a 2012 type III and a 2009 type III, both equipped with Lifepac12, Autopulse and other specialized equipment.

**Number of Calls:** 431 in 2011. 2010 saw 365 calls, and, as of mid-May, 177 calls for 2012. Yorktown EMS has experienced a roughly 30 percent annual increase in calls. The increased traffic is primarily due to the oil and natural gas boom in the area. In addition to providing EMS services to Yorktown, Yorktown EMS provides services to Nordheim and the western half of DeWitt County, which is approximately 325 square miles. Yorktown EMS also has mutual aid agreements with the City of Cuero and Goliad County. Yorktown EMS provides transports to Cuero Community Hospital in Cuero, DeTar and Citizens in Victoria and Otto Kaiser in Karnes; longer transports have included Corpus Christi and San Antonio.

Average response time in Yorktown city limits is four minutes; in the county



Texas Department of State Health Services  
Office of EMS Trauma/Systems MC 1876  
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Periodical  
Rate Paid  
At Austin, Texas



Left to right: Irene Wulf, Bill Robinson, Charlotte Andersen, Mary Lee Kozielski, Leslie Voelkel, Kenneth Ahrens, Frank Blair, John Green, William Potcinske, Joe Banda. Not pictured: Chris Ochoa, Greg Ochoa, Cierra Boldt, Bobby Strieber, Amy Lamprecht and Dr. Gordon Barth.

it's nine minutes. Transport times to Cuero average 18 minutes and to Victoria 38 minutes. Medical helicopters servicing Yorktown EMS include PHI Air Medical, AirLIFE, Methodist AirCare and Halo Flight. Helicopter flight time to Victoria is under 20 minutes. Yorktown EMS is paged by the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office, which handles the county's 9-1-1 service.

Responses include the "usual" city type of calls, but they also include unique calls, such as rescue alarms, snake bites, oil rig accidents, ranch and farm accidents and traffic injuries, September 2011 had five 18-wheeler rollovers alone.

**Current Activities:** Yorktown EMS provides standby service for football games, sporting events, organization and community events that require medical standby at no charge to the organization. Yorktown EMS also provides CPR training not only to it's own personnel, but to nursing home and school personnel, as well as to other local organization that may require such training at no cost. Yorktown EMS works with DeWitt County Sheriff's Office and Yorktown Fire to present Shattered Dreams to both Yorktown and Nordheim high school students.