

# Six Forks Rescue Squad

## Six Forks EMS

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Research notes by Mike Legeros  
Last updated January 10, 2017

### Pre-History

See main Wake County rescue squad history document.

### 1970-1979

1976 - **Six Forks Rescue** created. Incorporated on December 30, 1976.

Six Forks memories:

- Organized by members of Six Forks FD, believe after a bad car accident and waiting for ambulances.
- Housed at the Six Forks FD fire station at 1431 Lynn Road.
- Only rescue squad in Wake County not affiliated with a municipality.
- For first ten years, members required to be member of spouse of SFFD.
- In September 1983, they have two ambulance and a crash truck. The Chief is Don Adams. (RT, 9/5/83)

Building notes:

- Built in 1974 as a three-bay fire station measuring 50 by 50 feet.
- Four or five subsequent additions included:
  - Bays added on either side of the original three.
  - Bays added in the rear, existing side of structure.
  - Demolition of rear bays, and construction of a two-story structure with two bays and upstairs living area.
- Siren originally located on Six Forks Road near Northclift/Sandy Forks. Moved to the Lynn Road building a few years after it opened.

Vehicle notes:

- First ambulance was a van originally owned by Apex Rescue Squad.
  - 1972 or 1973 Chevrolet van.
  - Fully-heated, air-conditioned, and capacity of four patients.
  - Source: Legeros ARS history.

- Incorrectly cited as GMC model ambulance by Legeros in his Raleigh/Wake Firefighting Book.
- First crash truck was a surplus vehicle from the University of North Carolina, with a service body and compartments.
  - Don Adams painted the truck in the back bay of the station.
  - Squad previously carried Hurst tool and other equipment on ambulance.
  - Source: BE, RW.
- Second crash truck was a used Chevrolet truck with a Reading (?) crawl-in utility body that Don Adams found on a car lot on Wake Forest Road.
  - Unit 1280.
  - The truck was red and the squad had it painted orange over white.
  - They did all other work, adding lighting and an onboard generator.
  - Source: RW.

## 1980-1989

1986 - Paramedic training started at **Cary, Garner, and Six Forks** rescue squads. (N&O, 9/10/91)

1987-88 – Paramedic service started. (OH)

## 1990-1999

1991 – Nine volunteer rescue squads in Wake County abandoned tradition of free ambulance service and begin charging fees for transporting patients. (N&O, 6/10/91)

Snapshot of rescue squads, from September 10, 1991, News & Observer:

Rescue Squad	BLS fee	ALS fee	Lifetime Membership	1990 Calls
Six Forks Rescue	none	none	none	1,300

1993 – Heavy rescue delivered, 1994 Freightliner/Road Rescue medium-duty, walk-around rescue. Delivered December 1993.

1999 - Snapshot of Wake County EMS System, from TriData's *Comprehensive Assessment of the Wake County Emergency Medical Services System Final Report*, which was submitted to Wake County EMS on June 16, 1999:

Agency	Ambulances	Square Miles	1995 Pop.	Personnel	1998 Calls	1998 Revenues
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Six Forks VRS	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First duty, paramedic</li> <li>• Second duty, paramedic</li> <li>• Third duty, EMT intermediate and basic</li> <li>• Fourth duty, EMT intermediate and basic</li> </ul>	95.1	61,793	20 paid, 42 vol.	1,963	\$361,000
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More vehicle notes:

- Third crash truck was a 1994 Freightliner FL/Road Rescue medium-duty rescue unit.
  - Affectionately named BART (Big Ass Rescue Truck) by member Pogo.
  - “Great overall truck with great body,” though with a “problematic DC system.”
  - Unit 1281.
  - Sold to Myrtle Grove Fire Department in New Hanover County.
  - Sold by MGFD to Summerville Fire Department in Harnett County.
  - Source: RW
- Fourth crash truck was a late 1990s/early 2000s Ford four-door with a crawl-in Reading (?) body.
  - Built by squad.
  - Unit 1282.
  - Second-duty response truck with Hurst equipment, and back-up for 1281.
  - Source: RW

## 2000-2011

2002, July – Six Forks Fire Department merges with Bay Leaf Fire Department on July 1, 2002. Their station becomes Bay Leaf Station 3. The squad continues to operate from rear of building.

2005, October – Ambulance placed in service at airport-owned warehouse building at 6901 Mt. Herman Road.

- The 1972 building was obtained by the airport in 1990.
- Two rescue boats and a light trailer are also/later located there.

2007 – By this time, some of the ambulances are lettered as Six Forks EMS.

2009, July – Rescue services have ceased by this time.

2009, July – Organization name changed to **Six Forks EMS, Inc.**, as filed with the state on July 2, 2009.

2009, October - District Chief unit placed in service at Six Forks EMS main station on October 13, 2009, at 0800 hours.

- Named District 4, it responds primarily in the north and northwest region of Wake County.
- Fifth of six units, three operated EMS (DC1, DC2, DC3), and two operated by contracted EMS agencies (Cary, DC5 and Eastern Wake, DC6).
- District Chiefs serve as first-line supervisors to EMS personnel, and also respond to larger incidents involving multiple EMS unit and high-acuity clinical responses, such as cardiac arrest and severe respiratory distress.
- They also supplement Advance Practice paramedic units, and perform many human resource management and administrative functions as well.
- District 4 operates a 200\_ Dodge Ram covered pick-up.

2011 - **Six Forks EMS** ceases operation on May 2, 2011.

- Service assumed by Wake County EMS.
- Ambulances operating from three stations:
  - Bay Leaf Fire Station 3 / Six Forks EMS Station 1 at 1431 Lynn Road.
  - Bay Leaf Fire Station 2 / Six Forks EMS Station 2 at 13116 Norwood Road.
  - Six Forks EMS Station 3 at 6901 Mt. Herman Road.
- Organization files corporate dissolution with the state on July 27, 2011.

## Sources

- BE – Bob Edmundson
- RW – Rod Warner

## Help Wanted!

This document is part of a project to research and record the history of rescue squads and EMS providers in Wake County.

You can help in any number of ways, including:

- Read this document and visit the project web site, [www.legeros.com/history/ems](http://www.legeros.com/history/ems)
  - What's good about what we're doing?
  - What could be improved?
  - What haven't we thought of?
- Proofread this document as casually or extensively as desired:
  - Misspelled names?
  - Wrong makes or models of vehicles?

- General timeframes that seem off?
  - Etc.
- Supplement this document with things that you remember, or stories you've heard.
  - Jot your thoughts in an e-mail.
  - Send a long, detailed e-mail.
  - Write things down on paper and send via postal mail.
  - Talk to the project organizers in person, at your convenience.
  - Etc.
- Share any scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, old photos, or old documents that you have, or can find.
- Suggest particular people that we can contact, for more information.

Contact Mike Legeros or Jeff Hammerstein at any time. Thank you in advance!