



For Immediate Release
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E9-1-1 Institute Honors Greenville Journalist

The E-911 Institute in Washington, D.C., has named Kara Lusk, an anchor and reporter for WNCT-TV in Greenville, N.C., as the winner of the Institute's 2006 award in the Media/Entertainment category for increasing public understanding of the importance of 9-1-1 services"

Lusk's reporting spurred her community to upgrade its E9-1-1 capabilities. In February last year, she filed a story which told viewers that enhanced wireless 9-1-1 service was not available in Greenville, even though the state of North Carolina had a funding mechanism in place and that the technology existed to operate the service. As a result of her story, six of the 11 eastern counties lacking wireless E9-1-1 started developing the capabilities for the service.

She later followed up the story with a report from a dispatch center, giving viewers a unique opportunity to see the workings of the center and the dedication of the workers there.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the E9-1-1- Institute, said, "The persistent reporting done by Ms. Lusk is more than just good journalism. They also contributed to the safety of thousands of people in North Carolina as a result of the systems that were developed after her stories aired."

The award will be presented at a March 8th ceremony in Washington, D.C.

About the E9-1-1 Institute. The E9-1-1 Institute (www.e911institute.org) is a not-for-profit organization, which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

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