



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 3, 2015**

## **RUTHERFORD COUNTY ANNOUNCES NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

**Rutherfordton, NC** - Rutherford County is pleased to announce that Dr. Guy Winker, MD has accepted the position of Medical Director to provide medical oversight of emergency medical services within Rutherford County. Dr. Guy Winker will take over this position on March 1, 2015 when Dr. Bobby England retires from the position. The Medical Director provides oversight of all protocols that govern 911 tele-communicators, EMS personnel, fire departments and rescue squad personnel.

"Our EMS system is blessed to have Dr. Winker come on board as our medical director. He is an excellent physician and highly regarded within our community. We are excited to work together to grow and strengthen our entire emergency medical system." stated Kerry Giles, Transportation Services Director

Dr. Guy Winker is a board certified, family practitioner with Spindale Family Practice. He has been a physician in Rutherford County for over 25 years. He was Chief of Staff at Rutherford Regional Health System in 2011 and 2012 and also received the Stewart Mooring award from his peers at Rutherford Regional in 2012 based on exemplary service and commitment in providing and advancing a higher standard of medical care for the patients of this community.



Chairman of the County Commissioners, Bryan King also extended his support in this appointment. "Dr. Guy Winker is an excellent physician and one many citizens know as their personal doctor. The State Office of EMS mandates that we have a practicing physician as our Medical Director and we are pleased that Dr. Winker has agreed to provide medical oversight of our personnel."

The medical director reviews emergency calls to ensure proper medical care is provided from the initiation of a 911 call through onsite treatment and transport to a hospital facility. Some of the key tasks performed include ensuring that that medical control is available 24 hours a day; establishing and updating all treatment protocols, system orientation and continuing education of all EMS personnel, and medical review of care provided to patients.

Terry Baynard, EMS Operations Manager also wished to express his gratitude to Dr. England. "Dr. England has graciously served our citizens by stepping into the position of Medical Director when we were without one. He has humbly provided his medical expertise to enhance and grow our EMS system. We are deeply grateful."

In the coming weeks a tree will be planted in Dr. England's honor at the EMS station in Spindale.

Rutherford County's emergency medical system consists of the County's EMS department with 65 trained personnel including EMT-paramedics, EMT Intermediates and EMT Basics. The system also includes 27

9-1-1 tele-communicators, 12 of the 16 fire departments that function as first responders, and both Hickory Nut Gorge EMS & Rescue and Rutherford County Rescue Crew. For more information on Rutherford County EMS, please visit [www.facebook.com/rcems](http://www.facebook.com/rcems).