

### **Cherokee County (GA) Fire-Emergency Services**

The Cherokee County Fire-Emergency Services underwent many changes this past year to improve the level of emergency care for the citizens of Cherokee County. First, the department change how the dispatch center processes medical calls, significantly reducing the average time for dispatching emergency medical crews by one minute and twenty seconds.

To improve the quality of care for cardiac arrest victims, the Cherokee County Fire-Emergency Services implemented the Therapeutic Hypothermia Protocol. Each ambulance is now equipped with an Engle cooler that keeps IV fluid at 39 degrees centigrade and a freezer cooler filled with ice packs for further cooling. The post-resuscitated patients are transported to facilities that have heart catheterization programs that can continue cooling the patients upon arrival.

These are just two of the significant changes implemented by the Cherokee County Fire-Emergency Services to enhance the delivery of emergency medical services for its residents.