



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

## EMS Updates in Douglass Township

Since the COVID-19 Pandemic, our Emergency Medical Service professionals from Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance Service have been meeting with Township Officials to establish a working partnership. This partnership will ensure the stability needed to carry out their mission to provide the highest quality, pre-hospital basic and advanced life support to the residents of Douglass Township.

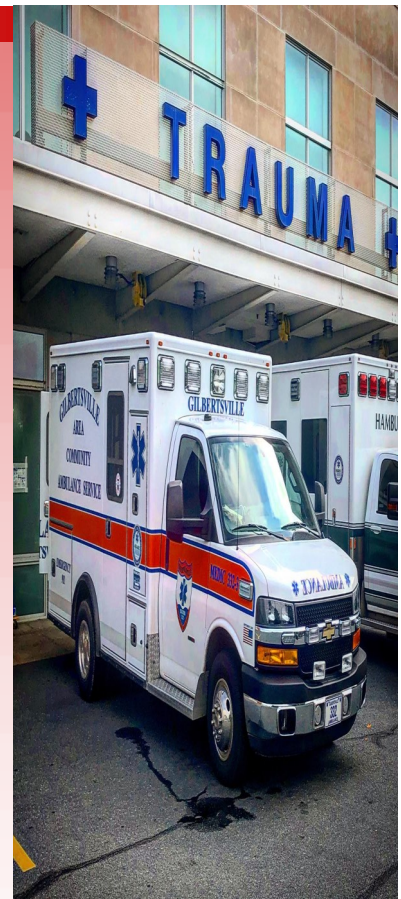
Per Pennsylvania State Law, Section 1553, Douglass Township, along with all other local municipalities, are **mandated** to provide fire and emergency medical services to their residents. **This includes providing financial assistance for these services.** However, **no** State or Federal funding has been provided to support local municipalities with this mandate.

## Emergency Medical Services Tax Implemented

In 2023, you will see a new line item on your tax bill labeled “Emerg Med Srvc”. This emergency medical services tax does not replace your annual ambulance subscription. The emergency medical services tax supplements the cost to operate and staff an advanced life support ambulance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Medical billing, Medicaid and Medicare are no longer covering the costs to provide ambulance service in the United States.

In addition to serving Douglass Township, Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance Service also provides first due ambulance coverage to our neighbors in New Hanover Township and Upper Pottsgrove Township. It is our hope that our neighbors and other surrounding municipalities see the importance and value to providing funding to the emergency medical professionals that serve their communities.

The results of not properly funding emergency medical services in our community would be the loss of our local EMS agency, longer response times and ultimately the loss of life.

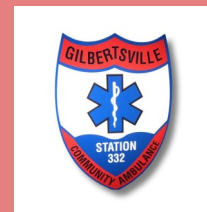


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### GILBERTSVILLE AREA COMMUNITY AMBULANCE

91 JACKSON ROAD  
PO BOX 332  
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610-367-9191



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## STATION 332

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Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance Service was formed and chartered on July 15, 1982, to provide Basic Life Support for our surrounding communities. While times have changed, two things have remained constant; the pride of the organization and the dedication to providing the best possible pre-hospital care for the community and surrounding areas.

## Douglass Township appoints two members to Gilbertsville Ambulance Board of Directors

With the implementation of an emergency medical services tax, it is important that Douglass Township has representation to build a collaborative relationship of transparency, success and responsible spending.

To ensure Douglass Township has a voice in the operation of our recognized EMS organization, we are pleased to announce that Kimberlee Stouch and Donald Bergstresser have been appointed as Board of Directors to Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance Service.

Douglass Township continues to work to secure and stabilize the emergency service organizations that serve our community. These efforts are not possible without the dedication and commitment of our first responders that serve in our Fire, Police and EMS agencies.



Donald Bergstresser  
**Appointed Board of Director**  
Gilbertsville Area Community  
Ambulance Service



Kimberlee Stouch  
**Appointed Board of Director**  
Gilbertsville Area Community  
Ambulance Service