

TESTIMONIAL: DANI WADDELL & ADAM GALLOWAY, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Adam Galloway (L) and Dani Waddell (R)

Dani Waddell

A medic in the military for 6 years, Danielle-Renee Waddell (“Dani”) has always loved the excitement and the ability to make a difference that a job in healthcare provides. When she saw a program on the Discovery Channel about the Charity School of Nursing, she decided to return to her hometown of New Orleans and continue her allied health/nursing training there.

She had just come home when hurricane Katrina hit, throwing a wrench into her plans. Still, she stayed in New Orleans and, as the college recovered, she took some classes. “I fell in love with my Trauma class and decided to pursue EMS,” said Dani.

After completing her EMT-Intermediate classes, Dani has continued her studies to become a paramedic with her Delgado training. Amid the critical need for EMS professionals in the New Orleans area, she wants to devote time to serving the area as a paramedic while continuing her education to pursue her ultimate dream of becoming a flight nurse.

Dani has the highest of praise for the education she has received at Delgado. In particular, she appreciates that Delgado’s Department of EMS Education Director Sharmaine Hughes goes above and beyond to teach her EMT students on a nursing level. “It seemed impossibly tough at first,” said Dani, “But now I really appreciate that I don’t just know procedures, but I understand the ‘why’ and the physiology behind everything I do.”

During her clinical rotations, she has come to realize that preparation is appreciated by healthcare professionals in the field, too. “Doctors know that Delgado students are going to know their stuff, that the level of education we receive at Delgado makes all the difference,” said Dani. “I’m proud to be a Delgado EMT.”

Adam Galloway

Adam has been working in construction for more than 15 years, and today owns and manages his own contracting business while pursuing a career change to healthcare. He thanks Delgado not only for the strength of its training, but also the flexibility the college provides to students who must balance work, home life and school.

“Delgado has worked with me to create a schedule that fits with my life,” said Adam. “Without such flexibility, I would never have been able to pursue my EMS education.”

Inspired by his wife, a nurse, Adam began his healthcare education at Delgado by completing the EMT-Basic program before enrolling in Charity School of Nursing. Much as he appreciated the quality of nursing education, he found at the time that he longed for the adrenaline rush of EMS and transferred back to Delgado’s EMT program.

“I just missed all that energy and the thrill of being first on site to provide medical assistance,” Adam said.

Adam has completed the EMT-Intermediate program and joined Mandeville Fire District 4 as a Delgado Paramedic Associate’s Degree program student. Eventually, after working as a field Paramedic, Adam’s dream is to become a flight nurse. He believes his education and training at Delgado will give him the strong foundation he needs to succeed in his EMS and, eventually, flight medic career.