



## **NEWS RELEASE – Name of Recipients Embargoed until 10/9/08 at 6:30 pm**

Date: October 8, 2008  
Release Date: Immediately  
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### **(TVF&R to Honor Firefighters and Staff at Meritorious Awards Ceremony)**

On Thursday, October 9, 2008, from 5:30-7:00 pm, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue will recognize 31 Firefighters and staff members for their commitment to excellence at an emergency incident, when assisting a neighboring county in the wake of a disaster, in the classroom, or in their day-to-day service over the past year. The Meritorious Awards Program includes an Introduction and Color Guard Presentation by [TVF&R's Pipes & Drums and Honor Guard](#); Welcome and Comments from [Fire Chief Jeff Johnson](#), Board President Bob Wyffels, and Local 1660 Union President Rocky Hanes; award presentations; choral tribute and memorial reading for TVF&R Fallen Firefighters. The ceremony takes place at the Al Kader Shrine Center (25100 SW Parkway Avenue, Wilsonville) and includes the following recognitions:

**Academic Excellence** - *presented to any member who has graduated from a four-year college or university while a member of TVF&R.*

**Captain Dave Halley** – Bachelors Degree in Public Safety Administration from Grand Canyon University  
**Chief of Staff Tom Clemo** – Masters Degree in Public Administration from Portland State University

### **New Hire (1) and Promotions (28)**

Fire Inspector (new hire) - **Ty Darby**  
Deputy Fire Marshal I - **Jeremy Foster**  
Human Resources Assistant - **Dana Piersall**  
Supply Operations Supervisor - **Blossom Zelaya**  
Engineer - **Charles Boyle, Geoffry Conroy, Travis Gripp, Chad Hashbarger, Jeremiah Moffitt, Steven Moroney, Matthew Oberhelman, Lawrence O'Keefe, Christopher Parksion, Kristina Preim, David Schurter, Darrin Shore, Lydia Woodman, Amy Zahler.**  
Lieutenant - **Steven Boughey, Jeffrey Cook, Brian Johnson, Stephen (Todd) Lake, Barry Quinn, Jason Schurter, Nathan Schuster.**  
Captain – **William (Case) Brown, Brent Vankeulen**  
Battalion Chief - **Rich Hoffmann**  
Assistant Chief - **Mike Duyck**

**Union Member of the Year** – *chosen by the Executive Board of Local 1660*

**Battalion Chief Allen Kennedy.** Selected for the compassion and care he demonstrates while assisting fellow firefighters struggling with devastating health issues. For the past seven years, Battalion Chief Kennedy has also coordinated and provided leadership to TVF&R's Firefighter Stair Climb Team which has raised over \$40,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

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Special Unit Citation - awarded to any unit, or specially constituted team, within the District that has worked together toward a common goal.

**Lieutenant Neale Brown, Engineer Steve Stoddard, Firefighter Tom Eubanks.** On June 27<sup>th</sup> TVF&R was called to assist a 72 year-old man who had landed on his head after falling from a ladder while cleaning the gutters on his home. The patient suffered immediate and severe pain in his spine and loss of feeling and function in his arm. Recognizing how critical the situation was and the risk of paralysis or death, the crew exercised extreme care in immobilizing the patient's neck to reduce further injury and transported him to a Life Flight helicopter. The patient was flown to Emanuel Hospital where trauma physicians found multiple cervical fractures. According to physicians, this was the worst unstable cervical fracture they had seen where the patient still had feeling and movement of his extremities and, if not for the careful treatment provided at the scene, the patient could have died or been disabled from his injuries.

**Sherry Arasim, Dan Boss (City of Tualatin), Bret Boysen, Tom Clemo, Kevin Day, Mike Duyck, Jess Fuellas, Kirk Hale, Dave Halley, Joanne Hatch, Jeff Jones, Susan Mootry, Walt Peck, Marc Reed, Eric Schult, Dean Schulze, Storm Smith (City of Hillsboro), Scott Sullivan, Shannon Wrench.** Last December a State of Emergency was declared in Columbia County due to severe storms and flooding. On December 5<sup>th</sup>, TVF&R was asked to send an Incident Management Team (IMT) to Columbia County to augment their resources. IMT 1 responded to the Emergency Operations Center in St. Helens. Staff filled many key incident command system positions in the Emergency Operations Center, and liaison field positions in the devastated communities. Several days into the incident, Team 2 was deployed to relieve Team 1 and assist in transitioning duties back to local emergency management personnel. Columbia County Commissioner Tony Hyde later commented that “the quality and management skills that TVF&R brought set a new standard for Columbia County.”

Fallen Firefighters

**Bruce Averitt, Steve Berg, Richard Burris, Charles Campbell, Richard Cates, Randilyn Dean, Robert Drake, Bill Garner, John Glover, Phil Hall, Doyle Harris, Mike Krauthoefer, Billy Little, Tom McKinney, Dan Rogers, Gary Steele, and Russ Williamson**

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