



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen Eubanks, Public Information Officer, 503-441-9324 (pager)

TVF&R Personnel Recognized by Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

On Saturday, May 22, the Oregon Fire Chief's Association held its 9th Annual Meritorious Awards Banquet. The event honored fire service personnel and citizens throughout Oregon for their extraordinary service in the categories of *Honor, Valor, Distinguished Conduct, Excellence, Unit Citation, Citizen Life Saving, Public Service* and *Lifetime Achievement*. TVF&R personnel recognized at this year's event included:

Retired Assistant Fire Chief Paul LeSage: Gold Trumpet Award

The Gold Trumpet is the most prestigious award in the Oregon Fire Service and is given for exceptional contributions to the fire service. Paul LeSage was recognized for his exceptional commitment and leadership to the fire service, and diligence to improving fire department performance capabilities in the areas of EMS and organizational deployment. As an active member of OFCA Board, Paul was also instrumental in activities related to: ISO, cancer legislation, standards of cover, and ADA requirements for fire stations. In addition, he was—and remains—a valued instructor.

Division Chief Brian Sherrard; Captain Deric Weiss; Lieutenant Jeff Miller: Unit Citation

In conjunction with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, these three members, as part of TVF&R's Hazardous Materials Response Team, helped pilot a study to identify toxins released during a structure fire. This study was chartered by the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council to set air monitoring and water run-off standards to ascertain when it is safe for emergency responders to remove their air packs. The study will greatly impact the future health and safety of firefighters not only in Oregon, but across the nation.

Public Education Chief Officer Joanne Hatch and Assistant Fire Marshal Kate Stoller: Golden Sparky Award

These individuals were honored for their work with TVF&R's Multi-Family Housing Fire Reduction Program. This program offers free fire and life safety training for landlords and encourages fire departments to develop relationships with apartment managers and property owners to help reduce devastating fires. These individuals have been instrumental in providing training to fire departments throughout Oregon and across the nation.

Lieutenant Doug Napoli; Engineer/Paramedic Jared Whitney; Firefighter/Paramedic Genaro Esparza, Jr.; and Firefighter/Paramedic Jason Hachmuth: Unit Citation

This crew was recognized for their rescue efforts when a fire trapped an entire family on the balcony of a three-story apartment building on November 4th, 2009. fire. Using a 24 foot ladder, the crew brought an infant and child safely to the ground, then assisted two adults down the ladder. The crew then conducted a search of the threatened apartment to confirm there were no occupants trapped inside.

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