



Marion County Board of County Commissioners Marion County Fire Rescue

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MCFR FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZED FOR LIFE-SAVING SERVICE

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (Feb. 26, 2010) – At a Marion County Fire Rescue recognition ceremony this afternoon, Firefighter/Paramedic Joe Bush and Firefighter/EMT Joe Ortiz from Orange Lake Station 9 were recognized for reviving Marion County citizen Duane Stocking after his heart stopped beating on Jan. 24.

Initially, firefighters from four Marion fire stations responded to a grass fire near the home of the 71-year-old. After over exerting himself outdoors, Stocking experienced severe chest pain and shortness of breath, alerting crews on scene to his condition. Once Bush and Ortiz arrived on-scene they began to administer advanced life-support techniques and promptly informed a local hospital as to Stocking's condition. During transport, Bush worked to keep Stocking alive and continuously administered care.

After arriving at a local hospital, Stocking had a second heart attack, but physicians were able to save him due to Bush and Ortiz's proper communication about his condition and their life-saving techniques ultimately keeping Stocking alive. Attending the recognition ceremony, Stocking publicly thanked the crew and firefighters presented him with MCFR's Mended Heart Award in recognition of his strong will to live, courage and strength on Jan. 24.

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