



Marion County Board of County Commissioners Marion County Fire Rescue

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AMERICAN LEGION NAMES MARION CAPTAIN FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (March 9, 2009) – The American Legion Post No. 58 in Dunnellon named Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) Captain Clifford Grier, 46, the “Firefighter of the Year” this weekend as part of an annual ceremony honoring fire rescue and law enforcement professionals in our community.

The veterans’ group recognized Grier’s outstanding leadership, ability and service, commending his work with MCFR’s Juvenile Fire Setter Program. Grier along with Senior Fire Inspector/Investigator Angie Sweeney work to curb juvenile fire setting, teaching children and teens the dangers of playing with fire. Through use of videos, classroom instruction and discussion, participants see first hand the consequences of playing with fire. During the 2007-2008 fiscal year, 45 children went through MCFR’s Juvenile Fire Setter program. Grier is also an active participant in many other public education programs.

Grier, who has worked for MCFR for 18 years, started his public service career in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps and later the Washington D.C. Police Department before moving to Marion County with his wife. His father-in-law inspired him to continue his education in Ocala and pursue his fire rescue credentials.

Now as a captain, Grier proudly serves the southwest district which includes Friendship, Marion Oaks, Golden Ocala, Meadowood Farms and Rainbow Springs.

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