



# Marion County Board of County Commissioners Marion County Fire Rescue

2631 SE 3rd Street  
Ocala, FL 34471

[www.marioncountvfl.org/fire/rescue.htm](http://www.marioncountvfl.org/fire/rescue.htm)



Contact: Heather Danenhower, Public Relations Manager, Marion County Fire Rescue  
Office: (352) 291-8094 ▪ Pager: (352) 898-3570

## **NEW FIREFIGHTERS GET SWORN-IN AND RECOGNIZED**

Immediate Release

- WHO:** Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) and Commission Chairman Jim Payton
- WHAT:** MCFR Employee Recognition and Swearing-In Ceremony
- WHEN:** March 27, 2009  
3 p.m.
- WHERE:** McPherson Government Complex ▪ Commission Chamber (601 SE 25th Avenue)
- WHY:** Twenty-three newly hired men and women are ready to take their oath of appointment and become MCFR firefighter/paramedics and firefighter/EMTs. On Friday, as part of an MCFR tradition, these recruits will raise their right hand and promise to dedicate their best efforts to saving lives and protecting property.

As part of the ceremony, Commission Chairman Jim Payton will recognize Fire Chief M. Stuart McElhaney for his 15 years of service as well as other newly promoted employees and special award recipients, including Captain Dennis Cronmiller.

The VFW Post 8083 will name Cronmiller "Firefighter of the Year" for his leadership and dedication to the North Central Florida Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force 8 Team. The team's members are experts in several disciplines, including high angle rope rescue; trench rescue; technical, machinery and vehicle extrication and structural collapse search and rescue. Cronmiller has led the team in deployments to The Villages of Sumter County following an F-3 tornado touchdown and to Mississippi after the 2005 hurricanes. Cronmiller is so involved with technical rescue initiatives and training that the Florida State Fire College in Lowell even named its US&R facility after him, calling it Camp Cronmiller.

Cronmiller is also actively involved with MCFR's Honor Guard.

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