



Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Fire Rescue

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Today's Date: June 13, 2011

FIREFIGHTERS TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR BRAVERY, NEW EMPLOYEES SWORN IN

Immediate Release

- WHO:** Marion County Fire Rescue and Marion County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Stan McClain
- WHAT:** Fire Rescue Employee Recognition and Swearing-In Ceremony
- WHEN:** Friday, June 17, 2011 ▪ 3 p.m.
- WHERE:** McPherson Governmental Complex (601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala)
- WHY:** On Sept. 26, 2010, Lt. Scott Gragen, Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Hoover, Firefighter/Paramedic Marshall Runkles and Firefighter/Paramedic Greg Stroud from Anthony Station 1 responded to a structure fire, arriving within four minutes. Moments after firefighters arrived, they were advised a victim was still inside the double-wide mobile home.

With heavy flames surging through the roof, firefighters immediately went inside to search for the victim and brought her outside to receive treatment. While the victim did not survive, the crew executed this call with precision, speed, teamwork and excellent communication. For their involvement in an act of bravery and for showing initiative and capability during a fire fatality in Anthony, Gragen, Hoover, Runkles and Stroud will be awarded the Medal of Commendation at Friday's ceremony.

Ready to take their oath of appointment, 12 new employees will also join the Marion County Fire Rescue family as single-certified EMTs or paramedics at the event. As part of a MCFR tradition, these recruits will raise their right hand and promise to dedicate their best efforts to saving lives and protecting property.

Marion County Fire Rescue will also honor six MCFR personnel for local awards they received from the community, acknowledge two employees with certificates of appreciation, promote two MCFR employees, recognize nine employees for their committed years of service and welcome two new administrative employees.

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"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"