



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

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### Fire Rescue

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## **FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR BRAVERY, NEW EMPLOYEES SWORN IN**

Immediate Release

**MARION COUNTY, Fla.** (June 17, 2011) – 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 this fire fatality in Anthony, Gragen, Hoover, Runkles and Stroud were awarded the Medal of Commendation at Friday's ceremony.

Taking their oath of appointment, ten new employees also joined the Marion County Fire Rescue family as single-certified EMTs or Paramedics. As part of a MCFR tradition, these recruits raised their right hand and promised to dedicate their best efforts to saving lives and protecting property.

Marion County Fire Rescue also honored six MCFR personnel for local awards they received from the community, awarded Joseph Saucey with the Robert E. Blair Scholarship, acknowledged two employees with certificates of appreciation, promoted two MCFR employees, recognized seven employees for their committed years of service and welcomed two new administrative employees.

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*"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"*