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STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

To: Heads of Fire Departments
From: Stephen D. Coan, State Fire Marshal
Date: May 1, 2014
Re: Firefighter of the Year

I am pleased once again to announce that the time for nominations is once more before us for the Annual *Firefighter of the Year* Awards. Over the past years, the *Firefighter of the Year* event has grown in stature to be the premier event that honors the heroic acts of the men and women in the Massachusetts fire service; and I hope that you will take the time to reflect on your own department's activities and sort out incidents that are worthy of recognition. I encourage you to participate in the process by selecting candidates from your department who have gone beyond the call of duty to serve their community.

Please forward your submissions of candidates performing outstanding acts of bravery and/or community service between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014, following the guidelines as attached.

It is our intent to move the ceremony closer to where it had been held in past years, that being mid-October as opposed to being very close to the holiday season and fighting the possibility of inclement weather. Your selections should be forwarded to Kerry Weihn at the above address no later than **July 15, 2014**. The committee will meet to review the nominations and forward their decisions to the Governor in early September. **Fire chiefs who have submitted nominations will be requested to meet with the Heroic Awards Committee to further support their nomination(s) and answer any questions that the Committee may have.** You will be notified by our Events Coordinator as to the date and time to appear before the Committee.

I look forward to hearing from your department.