

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

2012 “Firefighter of the Year” Award Recipients

In total 31 awards will be presented to 72 honorees: the Norman Knight Award for Excellence in Community Service; 9 Individual Awards for Meritorious Conduct; 3 Group Awards for Meritorious Conduct to teams of firefighters; the Patriot’s Award; the Fire Marshal’s Award; 14 Medals of Valor; and 2 Medals of Honor.

2 Medals of Honor (posthumous)

Peabody Fire Department

FF James M Rice

On December 23, 2011, Firefighter James Rice, 11-year veteran Peabody firefighter responded to the scene of a 3-alarm fire only to be beaten back by heavy smoke and flames. Officials received a distress call from Firefighter Rice after he collapsed somewhere between the first and second floor shortly after entering the building. Firefighter Rice was rushed to Salem Hospital, but he did not survive.

Firefighter Rice is survived by his wife, Amy and three children, Alyssa, age 13, Katelyn, age 10 and Ryan age 8.

Worcester Fire Department

Firefighter Jon Davies

On December 8, 2011, The Worcester Fire Department responded to a 3-decker fire at 49 Arlington Street. While searching for a missing occupant of the building, the roof, attic and third floor collapsed onto the lower floors, trapping two firefighters under debris. Firefighter Jon Davies was pulled out of the rubble by his colleagues but did not survive.

Firefighter John Davies was a 17-year veteran of the force. The 43-year-old leaves behind three sons, two of who are in the military, one currently serving in Afghanistan, and one serving as a member of the Worcester Fire Department.

14 Medals of Valor

Bridgewater Fire Department

Lt Thomas Luckman FF George W. Hogg

Woman Rescued from House Fire

The Bridgewater Fire Department responded to a house fire at 70 Winter Street early in the morning of April 23, 2012. The first arriving engine company found fire blazing from the rear of the structure and called for mutual aid. The first engine company on the scene advanced an attack line and forced entry into the front door where they encountered heavy smoke with zero visibility. A check of the exterior found what appeared to be a kitchen fire in the rear of the house. It was also learned a victim was still inside.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

The next company arrived and provided a backup hose line for Lieutenant Luckman and Firefighter Hogg as they advanced inside to search for the victim. Lieutenant Luckman and Firefighter Hogg located the victim unconscious next to her bed in the third bedroom and dragged her down the hallway and out the front door. Just as soon as the woman was outside, the interior of the home became totally engulfed in flames and evacuation orders were sounded due to the deteriorating fire conditions. Despite the effort of firefighters the woman was later pronounced dead.

Fitchburg Fire Department

Deputy David F. Rousseau

Rescue of Fire Victims & Protecting Firefighters from Electrocution

At about 8:30 a.m. on the morning of June 5, 2012, off-duty Deputy Chief David Rousseau passed by a 4-story apartment building and saw heavy fire coming from the third floor porch. Neighbors said that people were trapped on the upper floors. Captain Rousseau immediately entered the building and with the help of a civilian, searched the entire third floor. Capt Rousseau then went to the fourth floor and found a man and woman. The man had been asleep and was very confused. The Captain grabbed his arm and escorted them both down the stairs and out of the building to safety. Capt Rousseau attempted to re-enter the fourth floor, but found it now fully involved in fire.

When the Fitchburg Fire Department arrived, the 3rd and 4th floors were engulfed in flames with reports that people were still inside. Capt Rousseau assisted the arriving ladder truck in attempting to put up a 28 ft ladder. As they approached the building, a high-tension power line fell on the aluminum ladder. Capt Rousseau saw the power line falling and instructed the other two firefighters with him to drop the ladder before the power line landed on it.

Captain Rousseau is credited with preventing his fellow firefighters from becoming electrocuted and seriously injured. He is also credited with saving the two occupants on the third floor after he conducted a search under heavy smoke, heat and fire conditions, without the benefit of protective gear or a hose-line.

Hyannis Fire District

Capt Eric A. Kristofferson FF/Paramedic Nathan Coughlin

Rescue of Elderly Woman Trapped in Apartment

On the evening of October 31st, 2011, at 11:18 a four-alarm fire was reported at a three-story apartment complex comprised of mostly elderly residents. Sixty firefighters from several Barnstable fire departments responded.

Upon arrival, fire and smoke were coming from a third floor apartment. Fire Captain Kristofferson and Firefighter Nate Coughlan grabbed tools and a high-rise pack and raced up the third floor using the stairwell. As they reached the second floor, two police officers exited the building coughing and alerted them to a woman that was trapped in her third floor apartment.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

Firefighter Coughlan started to forcible open doors until he heard sounds from a victim behind an apartment door. Unfortunately, the victim was blocking the apartment door, which made it extremely difficult to open. Facing great adversity, due to the blocked doorway, intense heat and thick smoke, without the safety of a hose-line, Capt Kristofferson and FF Coughlan persevered, wriggling their way through the small crack of the door, fighting obstacles inside, while attempting to get to the victim.

The fire victim was an elderly woman that had severe burns. Her clothes and skin were burnt. Due to the nature of the burn injuries it was difficult to carry her effectively, Capt Kristofferson and Firefighter Coughlan, improvised on the spot and sandwiching the victim between them and working in unison removed her down three flights of stairs outdoors to a waiting Hyannis Fire ambulance.

Saugus Fire Department Capt Thomas Nolan Lt James Hughes

Water Rescue at Dock

On November 18, 2011, the Saugus Fire Department received a telephone call from a female reporting that she hears a person screaming for help coming from the water in the vicinity of Lobstermen Landing on Ballard Street. At the same time, Captain Nolan, who lives in the neighborhood, was off duty and traveling along Ballard Street returning home from shopping. He heard fire alarm dispatch apparatus for a person in the water. He pulled into Lobstermen Landing. The female caller met him and related that she heard a person screaming for help coming from the river but the screaming had stopped.

Captain Nolan proceeded down the gangway to the floats. It was dark and visibility was poor. He looked to his right and saw nothing looking left, he saw a dog sitting along on the float. He went to where the dog was sitting, looked in the water and saw two legs hanging over a rope. The person was upside down under the water. Captain Nolan immediately jumped into the freezing water. He grabbed the man and pulled his head above the water. His face had some obvious trauma that may have occurred when it struck the float or the boat that was tied up nearby. The man made some gurgling sounds. Captain Nolan furiously kicked his feet as he struggled to keep the man's head above the freezing water. An arriving Police Officer climbed onto the boat to assist in getting the man out of the water, who was then transported for treatment. Without the unselfish actions of Captain Nolan the man would not have survived. He was alone and submerged upside down in frigid water out of sight of anyone.

Lynn Fire Department FF David Hathaway Rescue Victims Trapped in Car in Water

On December 5, 2011 at 1:00 a.m. a 9-1-1 call initiated a response to the Fox Hill Bridge over the Saugus River, which straddles the Lynn/Saugus city line.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

It was reported that a Mercedes Benz sport utility had crashed through the bridge guardrail and plunged into the Saugus River, about fifteen feet below the bridge deck. At this time, there were high tide conditions and the river was about twelve to eighteen feet deep.

When Lynn and Saugus fire engines arrived, Lynn Police Officers were in the water attempting to gain access through the drivers' door and had begun to extricate the male operator of the car. The driver was in cardiac arrest and transported to the hospital.

Having information that there was a second occupant in the passenger seat, Lieutenant Hughes and FF Hathaway made several dives to break into the vehicle without success. Using a forcible entry tool, they broke through the sunroof and located the second victim. Realizing they could not fit the victim through the sunroof, Lieutenant Hughes surfaced, took another breath and dove down reaching into sunroof of the car and guided the victim toward to driver's side. Simultaneously, Firefighter Hathaway then braced his feet against the outside of the vehicle and forced the female out of the car. The Firefighters then pulled the unconscious victim to the shoreline.

Although emergency treatment was administered and the victim was transferred to Salem Hospital she was later pronounced dead. The driver later recovered and was criminally charged because of the accident.

The rescue actions that occurred at the incident, reflects the dedication and ability of firefighters and police officers of three different agencies to work as a single unit in an emergency situation.

Salem Fire Department

**Lt Richard Arno
FF Randy Theriault
Alt Michael O' Donnell**

Rescue of Children Trapped in Fire Set by Mother

On Sunday evening, March 18, 2012 at 9:00 p.m., Salem Firefighters responded to a fire alarm at a 10-story high-rise residential building. They would not soon forget the horrific circumstances they found.

Lieutenant Arno and Firefighter Theriault made their way up to the fifth floor where thick black smoke had banked to the floor. They skillfully applied extinguishers on the open flames and broke into the apartment. Lieutenant Arno remained inside to fight the fire while Firefighter Theriault went for additional resources.

Through the heavy smoke and heat, Lieutenant Arno discovered a young boy and handed him to Firefighter O'Donnell who quickly made his way through smoke filled halls to deliver the boy for medical attention. Firefighter Theriault instinctively went on to investigate adjacent rooms and found a toddler in need of serious medical attention. He rescued this girl and delivered her to EMT's for treatment and transport.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

What made this incident significant was the fact that the mother of the children had sliced both their throats and left them for dead. She also disabled the sprinkler system inside the apartment and removed the interior doorknob before lighting the apartment with an accelerant. Her efforts made exiting the apartment by the son and Lieutenant Arno next to impossible. The lieutenant was trapped in the fire room with the boy until he kicked through the door.

The incident was disturbing and confusing to all the responders. The sprinkler systems in these buildings are inspected regularly and expected to work. The injuries suffered by the children were unthinkable and completely unexpected. Fire responders were prepared to deal with smoke inhalation or thermal injuries not life threatening injuries that were intentionally inflicted upon the children.

Westfield Fire Department

Capt Rebecca Boutin

Firefighter Rescued

At 10:43 on the evening of March 30th, 2012, a call of a house fire at 13 Chestnut Street came into the station. The first due engine arrived with a driver, Captain Boutin and Firefighter Makos as the tail ender. The Deputy in Command assigned them to the attic area. They gained access up an external stairway and found little visibility, very high heat but no fire. As they moved forward Firefighter Makos began to go low on air and told the Captain he had to get out. Just as Firefighter Makos was turning the nozzle over and beginning to move out of the room fire flashed over the top of them.

Firefighters outside describe the flames as shooting 20 feet out the windows in some areas of the house. Firefighter Makos then tripped and became separated from the line. He moved in the direction he thought towards the stairs but became disoriented and couldn't find his way out. His low air alarm was sounding.

The Captain backed out of the room after the fire rolled over them because the heat became too intense. She ordered the back up team at the top of the stairs out. When she got out and learned that Firefighter Makos did not make it out, she immediately put her mask on and went back up the stairs. At the top of the stairs with no visibility and very high heat she followed the line to the nozzle that she found open and unattended. She used the line and began to search waving her arms and legs and calling out his name.

Firefighter Makos stayed in the same spot hoping to be found but began to feel his air was almost gone and he wasn't going to make it out. At that time, he was kicked by Captain Boutin who was searching for him. He grabbed her leg and crawled up and over her and she pushed him out to safety.

Peabody Fire Department

Deputy Chief Eric R. Harrison

Firefighter Fatality

On December 23, 2011, Peabody Fire Department responded to an alarm at 5 Hancock Street. The first engine to arrive reported heavy smoke showing from the second floor of a 3-family

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

building. Arriving fire crews, including Firefighter James Rice were directed to advance hose lines to all three floors and search for any occupants. Fighting this fire was extremely challenging. There was a heavy fire load inside the apartment. Finding the seat of the fire was difficult because renovations had drastically altered the layout. The intensifying fire resulted in flashover conditions forcing all firefighting crews from the building, who attempted several attacks on the fire.

Fire Captain, now Deputy Chief, Eric Harrison learned of a downed firefighter on the second floor with a PASS device sounding, indicating he was not moving. Captain Harrison and his crew raced up the stairs following the hose line, passing several other fire crews who were held at bay due to the heavy smoke and fire conditions. After gaining entry to the second floor apartment, Captain Harrison without regard for his own safety removed himself from the of the hose line to search for the sound of the PASS device.

Searching diligently, he located unresponsive Firefighter Rice. By himself, Captain Harrison removed Firefighter Rice from the apartment, carried him around many obstacles to waiting firefighters.

Worcester Fire Department

Individual Citations:

Medal of Valor:

Medal of Honor (posthumous)

Lt Mark A. Chestna

FF Brian P. Carroll

FF Jon Davies

Firefighters Trapped, Injured and Killed

FF Kenneth R. Dion

Group Citations:

Technical Rescue Support Group

Lt John Kennedy

FF Stephen Kelly

FF Shawn Dyer

FF Thomas Hackett

FF Thomas Moore

FF Mathew Berthiaume

FF Bruce Lariviere

Davies Recovery Group

ADC Capt Dennis J. Dolan

Lt. Mark J. Cady

FF Robert A. Atchue

FF Seamus Shanley

Capt. Shawn Wyse

FF Robert J. LaRose Jr.

FF Lincoln K. Boisseau

Carroll Rescue Group

Deputy Chief John F. Sullivan

Lt. John J. Griffin

Lt. Stephen L. Mulry

FF Paul K. Ronayne

FF Christopher Johnson

Capt. Robert J. Courtney

FF Maurys C. Ramirez

FF Ruben Guadelupe

Lt. Joseph P. Gaffney

FF David M. Ryan

FF David J. Sachs

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

On December 8, 2011, the Worcester Fire Department responded to a fire in a 3-family building at 49 Arlington Street. Worcester EMS made an initial entry in the building prior to the fire department arrival and escorted one person from the 2nd floor apartment under moderate smoke conditions, reporting no fire at that time. The occupant told first arriving fire companies that his roommate was in the rear bedroom. The primary search found no victim, and due to dangerous conditions, the Incident Commander ordered all personnel to evacuate the 2nd and 3rd floors. Soon after, the roof of the rear porches collapsed and a full evacuation of the building was ordered.

The original occupant was insistent that his roommate was still in the building and with overall fire conditions improved, a second search order was given. Lt. Mark Chestna and Firefighter Ken Dion were assigned to back up Rescue 1 during the search. Approximately four minutes, the rear half of the structure collapsed without warning. Not knowing if their weight could cause them all to fall into the collapsed area, Lt. Chestna and FF Ken Dion grabbed two firefighters by the back of their turnout gear and lifted them both to safety.

The 3-story structure had collapsed in half, with the rear half of the structure having separated from the front. At this time, the roof, attic, second and third floors had collapsed inward to the first floor and basement levels.

An accountability report established that two members of Rescue 1 were missing. Without hesitation and at great risk to themselves from on-going fire conditions, the Worcester firefighters undertook the rescue of Firefighters Davies and Carroll who were trapped under debris. Firefighter Jon Davies was located on the first floor by the sound of his PASS device and Firefighter Brian Carroll was found entrapped nearly directly below him in the basement. Firefighters shored up the structure and removed debris in and around the trapped firefighters in order to extricate them. FF Carroll was rescued from the debris after nearly 45 minutes and amazingly suffered minor injuries from his ordeal. Sadly, Firefighter Jon Davies, did not survive the building's collapse.

9 Individual Citations for Meritorious Conduct

Brookline Fire Department

Lt. Joseph W. Bullard Jr.

**Rescued Woman
Overcome by Smoke
She will join on stage**

On January 17, 2011, Martin Luther King Day, at 9:00 in the morning, the Brookline Fire Department responded to a reported dryer fire in the basement of 1471 Beacon Street. The building contained dozens of residents, many of whom were still asleep on the Monday holiday. The first arriving engine companies were ordered to stretch attack lines into the first, second and third floors to halt the rapid progress of the fire and protect the interior stairwell to allow for tenant evacuations.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

The fire continued to burn through the second floor and rapidly extended to the third. As firefighters continued their search for occupants they reached the 4th floor, right above the fire, without a working hose line, a dangerous place for any firefighter. Lt. Bullard located resident, Allie Wheeler who was disoriented by the heavy smoke and intense heat, confused and paralyzed with fear. Her roommates had attempted to rescue her but had been unable to reach her. With visibility at a minimum and declining fast, Lieutenant Bullard immediately began to calm the victim and instill confidence in her that they would get out safely. Had it not been for Lieutenant Bullard's calm demeanor and professional judgment in assessing the situation and leading Ms. Wheeler out of the fire building thru the hostile environment, the outcome could have been fatal.

Easton Fire Department

Capt James Walsh

Rescue in Senior Housing

FF/Paramedic Richard Salve

On December 2nd at 3:27 p.m. a master box fire alarm was received from the Easton Senior Housing Complex. Captain Walsh and Firefighter Salve were first to arrive on the scene when neighbors immediately told them some was trapped inside. Equipped with breathing apparatus, a thermal imaging camera and hose line, they entered the apartment and were instantly hit with a wall of heat and flames. The smoke had banked down to the level of the floor making visibility impossible.

Crawling across the floor and depending on their years of training, they swept the heat sensitive camera around the room in search of a human form. Captain Walsh got his arm entangled in a wheelchair as they both felt their way around the room. Firefighter Salve suddenly spotted a figure lying face down not moving on the floor about 15 feet away. Together they were able to drag the victim from the apartment in a matter of minutes to the safety of the front lawn and medical attention.

Stow Fire Department

Capt John Paul Benoit Lt Mark Guerin

Heroic Rescue Attempt

At 12:49 on the day before Thanksgiving in 2011, the Stow Fire Department received a call for a fire at a two story single-family home on Whitman Street. The first fire company to arrive found heavy black smoke and fire coming from the first floor. Knowing there was an occupant still in the building the two-man crew stretched a hose line to the side of the house and quickly entered.

With complete disregard for their safety, Captain Benoit and Lieutenant Guerin entered the structure and quickly knocked down heavy fire in the kitchen to make entry into the room of origin. While the second engine quickly and efficiently secured a water supply to firefighters, Benoit and Guerin rapidly located the victim and made a valiant rescue, unfortunately it was too late.

This loss of life was highlighted and even more deeply felt by the community having taken place so close to the holiday.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

Leominster Fire Department

Water Rescue; Multiple Victims

Individual Citations: FF James Cameron FF Matthew Burke

Group Award: **Deputy Chief Daniel Kirouac**
 Lt Jeffrey Nickel
 FF Kris Keckler
 FF Joshua Burdett
 FF Jonathan Campagna
 Lt Michael Marino
 FF Vincent Appolonio
 FF Nicholas DeCarolis

It was 1:59 a.m. on a cold May morning, when a call came into the Fitchburg Fire Department for an overturned canoe in the Notown reservoir with an undetermined number of people in the water. The reservoir is located next to Route 2 near the Fitchburg and Leominster town line. The Massachusetts State Police had come upon a disoriented man on the side of Route 2 who was soaking wet with multiple scrapes and cuts. The man stated that he and several friends had been in a canoe on the reservoir when it had capsized and that several people were still clinging to the canoe in the water. He had made his way through the woods to the highway but was in no condition to lead them back to the site.

Arriving engine companies traversed through dense woods and underbrush to the water's edge carrying gear and rescue equipment in search of the victims. Lt Nickel reported that 2 victims were on shore, one in cardiac arrest and that 2 victims were still in the water holding on to the canoe.

Firefighter Cameron and Firefighter Burke donned rescue suits and entered the water to bring the 2 victims to shore. Simultaneously, Firefighters Burdett, Keckler, DeCarolis and Campagna continued CPR on the victim in cardiac arrest and began caring for a female victim who had made it to shore. Deputy Chief Kirouac and Lt Appolonio made their way to the shoreline and together with Lt Marino and Lt Nickel realized it would be more efficient to move the victims over the water and called for rescue boats.

Worcester Fire Department: See above

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

3 Group Citations for Meritorious Conduct

Leominster Fire Department: See above

Peabody Fire Department	Captain Dale Kimball	Teen Trapped in Car Fire
	FF Stephen Pellegrini	
	FF Paul LaPlante	
	FF Paul Rheume	

On the morning of Sunday December 11, 2011 at 2:30 a.m. a 911 call was received of a motor vehicle rollover at 48 Herrick Street in Peabody. Engine 7 was dispatched and upon their arrival found a vehicle had rolled over on the passenger side and exploded into flames, which had extended to the house. They immediately called for assistance.

Captain Kimball and his crew quickly went to work and stretched a hose line to the structure and searched the house for occupants. After finding no one and extinguishing the exposed house fire, they turned their attention to the motor vehicle that was fully engulfed in flames. While extinguishing the fire they were informed by Peabody police that somebody might still be inside the car.

Captain Kimball instructed arriving firefighters to obtain a pencil ladder and without regard for their own safety, he and Firefighter Pellegrini climbed on top of the ladder over the burning vehicle while Firefighter Rheume provided water and foam for their protection.

Captain Kimball broke the passenger window on top of the rolled over vehicle and realized the teenage victim was trapped but still alive. Together with Firefighter LaPlante they reached into the still burning vehicle to lift the victim up and out of the flames.

Worcester Fire Department: See above.

Norman Knight Excellence in Community Service Award

Maynard Fire Department	FF Sean Kiley	Community Education
--------------------------------	----------------------	----------------------------

Firefighter Sean Kiley is the Maynard Fire Department's Public Educator. He works tirelessly to deliver community education programs that have a tremendous impact on the safety of the residents of Maynard. He serves as Maynard's Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) coordinator, working closely with classroom teachers to deliver lessons to the town's school aged children. An example of expanding beyond fire into life safety education is the program he delivered at the high school this past spring during senior class week on the issue of distracted driving to teenagers.

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

Firefighter Kiley reaches out to another vulnerable population – the town’s older adults – and organized the first annual Senior Expo that offered tips on fall prevention, medication safety, fire safety and many other topics. He is also responsible for a new voluntary home safety inspection program where firefighters work with residents to provide valuable information on a variety of topics and ensure safety hazards are pointed out in their homes and corrected.

Firefighter Kiley is a 9-year veteran of the Maynard Fire Department, however remains as enthusiastic about his job as a rookie on his first day. He exemplifies the very best qualities of a firefighter and continues his determination to keep his community educated and safe.

State Fire Marshal’s Award

Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Professor John Orr	Firefighter Safety Projects
	Professor James Duckworth	
	Professor David Cyganski	
	Professor Kathy Notarianni	

The memorial service for the six Worcester firefighters who died in the Cold Storage Warehouse fire inspired Worcester Polytechnic Institute Professor James Duckworth and his colleagues, Professors John Orr, David Cyganiski and Kathy Notarianni to see what they could do to improve firefighter safety. They are being honored with the Fire Marshal’s Award for their work on three amazing projects that will improve firefighter safety for decades to come: the Precision Indoor Personnel Location and Tracking system has addressed difficult technological barriers to locating firefighters inside a building during a fire; the Flashover Prediction project will help predict the most dangerous situation for a firefighter when everything in a room reaches the same temperature and ignites; and the Immediate Danger to Life and Health (IDLH) Situational Awareness project will help to detect deadly gases such as cyanide, that can be absorbed through the skin and contaminates protective clothing.

Patriot Award

Swansea Fire Department	Firefighter Joel R. Beaulieu	Heroic Service in Afghanistan
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Firefighter Joel Beaulieu, of the Swansea Fire Department, was deployed as a Security Force Platoon Leader, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 182nd Infantry Regiment, and U.S. Army in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from June 18, 2011 to March 10, 2012. Firefighter Beaulieu was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant and subsequently promoted to 1st Lieutenant with the Provincial Reconstruction Team Farah operating in Afghanistan.

On July 31, 2011, while on dismounted patrol in the village of Shewan, Afghanistan, Lieutenant Beaulieu’s patrol was struck by an improvised explosive device, (IED) and came under attack by a small arms fire. Lieutenant Beaulieu was struck by the initial blast, thrown to the ground and separated from the rest of the patrol. Although injured, Lieutenant Beaulieu crawled through the dust of the blast to a suppressive fire position at which time he noticed the patrol’s interpreter had also been injured. By himself and despite his own injuries, Lieutenant Beaulieu crawled

23rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Heroic Awards

December 18, 2012

through the kill zone to the interpreter's position, grabbed him, and dragged him into a nearby building to escape continuing arms fire.

Lieutenant Beaulieu willingly exposed himself to enemy fire to ensure the safety of a local national interpreter. He then secured the building and made communications with his men to set up the consolidation of the patrol.

For his professional achievement in performance of his duties Lieutenant Beaulieu was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. For Wounds Received in Action, Lieutenant Beaulieu was awarded the Purple Heart.

For his professional achievement in performance of his duties Lieutenant Beaulieu was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. For Wounds Received in Action, Lieutenant Beaulieu was awarded the Purple Heart. The Commonwealth is proud to show our appreciation for his courage and accomplishments while deployed with the United States Army. Lieutenant Joel Beaulieu is presented the "Firefighter of the Year" Patriots Award.