

# **FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR**      **FIRE OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

*Firefighter*  
Scott Johnson  
(Ladder 18/B shift)

*Captain*  
Philip Mueller  
(Ladder 1/B shift)

## **AWARD DESCRIPTIONS**

### **LETTER OF COMMENDATION**

*To be awarded to an individual, whether or not he/she is a member of the Austin Fire Department, at the discretion of the Awards Committee or the Fire Chief when conditions warrant recognition.*

### **CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION**

*Awarded to a member for outstanding acts/services on or off duty.*

### **UNIT CITATION**

*Awarded to a unit whose service was an unequalled personal effort in overcoming difficulties or obstacles in the completion of a difficult task, and has resulted in the protection of life or property OR for performance beyond the normal scope of duty.*

### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE**

*Awarded to any member who, while not in a life-threatening situation, is in direct support of operations where a member(s) is awarded a Medal of Merit, Valor, or Honor.*

### **MEDAL OF MERIT**

*Awarded to any member who saves the life, or attempts to save the life, of a human being by an act of rescue. This act must be of a conspicuous nature.*

### **MEDAL OF VALOR**

*Awarded to any member who has performed a courageous act under conditions of extreme danger and at great risk of bodily injury. The act must clearly exceed what is required, and results in the protection of life in a manner considered exceptionally valiant.*

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# **ANNUAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY**

**HONORING THOSE WHO DEMONSTRATE HOW  
“OUR MISSION GOES BEYOND OUR NAME”**



*Friday, January 27, 2023*

*7:30 a.m.*

*Permitting and Development Center  
6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr., Room 1405*

***Breakfast provided courtesy of H-E-B***

## WELCOME

*Fire Chief Joel G. Baker*

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

*Local Radio Legend Ed Clements*

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

*Fire Chief Joel G. Baker  
Division Chief Thayer Smith*

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

### JANUARY 7, 2022

#### Unit Citation

#### Ladder 8/A shift

*Capt. Raymond Leschber  
FS Jason Paez  
FF Jacob Bailey  
FF Heath Yanko*

#### Engine 14/A shift

*Lt. Tyson Poindexter  
FS Michael Heeney  
FF Bryan Flanigan  
FF Nicholas Schroeder*

#### Rescue 14/A shift

*Capt. James Rae  
FS Nathan Hager  
FF Nick Deno  
FF Jordan Johnson*

#### Engine 23/A shift

*Lt. Kelly Knobloch  
FS Matt McLellan  
FF Garrett Parcell  
FF John Trujillo*

#### Rescue 28/A shift

*Capt. Tim Vandermeer  
FS Ryan Arencibia  
FF Martin Rodriguez  
FF Matthew Zwolinski*

#### Certificate of Commendation

*FF Derick Zwerneman  
(Dispatch)*

#### Meritorious Service

*BC Shannon Edwards  
(Battalion 3/A shift)*

#### Medal of Merit

*Lt. Tyson Poindexter  
(Engine 14/A shift)  
FF Jacob Bailey  
(Ladder 8/A shift)*

*FS Jason Paez  
(Ladder 8/A shift)  
FF Nick Deno  
(Rescue 14/A shift)*



## JANUARY 23, 2022

#### Unit Citation

#### Engine 1/B shift

*Lt. Cyrus Merritt  
FS Michael Killian  
FF Eddie Barron  
FF Oel Leon*

#### Meritorious Service

*Lt. Cyrus Merritt  
FS Michael Killian  
FF Oel Leon*

#### Medal of Valor

*FF Eddie Barron*

## MAY 25, 2022

#### Unit Citation

#### Quint 34/A shift

*Capt. Christian Ward  
FF Logan Nicks  
FF Steven Slaughter  
FF Elliott Sorrells*

#### Medal of Merit

*FF Steven Slaughter*

## JULY 30, 2022

#### Unit Citation

#### Engine 1/A shift

*Lt. Antwaine Hobbs  
FS Jimmie Clark  
FF Oel Leon  
FF Carson Neal*

#### Ladder 1/A shift

*Capt. David Spidle  
FF Adam Aguirre  
FF Erik Coronado  
FF Daniel Hendrix*

#### Engine 4/A shift

*FS Aaron Hooser  
FF Joseph Barschow  
FF Daniel Perez  
FF Garret Pollok*

#### Letters of Commendation

*ATCEMS Medic 6:  
Clinical Specialist Emily Swanner  
Medic Saul Cuevas*

