



DPS PR# 11-058

October 12, 2011

For Immediate Release

Annual Fire Service recognition awards for 2011 announced

(Anchorage) The Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety is pleased to announce the 2011 Annual Fire Service recognition awards. The Division accepts nominations for these awards from all over the State and a committee comprised of the previous year's winners selects the winners. The awards were presented at the 2011 Alaska Fire Conference in Fairbanks, Alaska on September 24, 2011.

The William A Hagevig Fire Service Instructor of the Year award is awarded to a fire service instructor who demonstrates an amazing dedication to training and education of members of their organization. Safety Officer Alex N. Boyd of the Anchorage Fire Department is the 2010 recipient. Safety Officer Boyd was one of the original three Platoon Training Officers selected to serve a one year term to expand the department's training capabilities to each of its 3 24 hour shifts. Safety Officer Boyd has extended his tour as PTO and was instrumental in reinvigorating the department's fire and safety training programs. Alex was extremely valuable in equipping the newly constructed additions to the Anchorage Fire Department Training Center.

The Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year award is awarded to a fire and life safety educator who's dedication to the reduction of fire related death and injury goes above and beyond. Fire and Life Safety Educator Traci Davis of the South Tongass Volunteer Fire Department is the recipient of this award for 2011. Educator Davis has shown exceptional dedication to delivering fire and life safety programs throughout the year for all residents in the Ketchikan area. Educator Davis has truly made a difference in protecting the residents of the Ketchikan area from fire.

The Firefighter of the Year award is awarded to a firefighter who demonstrates outstanding actions on the scene of an emergency or at other functions in their community. Fire Officer Jim Pickett of the Bayside Fire Department on Kodiak Island is the 2011 recipient. Officer Pickett serves the community of Kodiak in many ways. Officer Pickett is an accomplished firefighter, EMT, trainer and public education/fire prevention instructor. Officer Pickett has installed more than 900 smoke alarms in homes around Kodiak (almost single-handedly). Officer Pickett accomplished this on his own time after work and on weekends.

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