



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 23, 2026

Contact: Kim Y. Hylander
Senior Communications Analyst
Office/Cell: 571-722-8689
Email: khylander@pwcgov.org

First Responders Honored During Medal Day Ceremony

On Saturday, March 21st, the Prince William County Fire and Rescue System held its 10th Annual Medal Day Ceremony at Grace Life Church in Bristow, Virginia. This ceremony provides the System with the opportunity to celebrate the exemplary performance of our Fire and Rescue System members during incidents that occurred in the 2025 calendar year.

The fire and rescue members, recognized, exemplify the daily commitment to exceptional service to the citizens we serve. The awards demonstrate the level of skill and valor with which we respond to each and every emergency call and how we continuously improve our service to the community and its residents. The award recipients have distinguished themselves in the performance of their duties. Those honored received awards presented by Chief Thomas LaBelle for Unit Citation, Lifesaving, Meritorious Service, Technician of the Year, Officer of the Year, Chief's Commendation Award, Bronze Valor, and Silver Valor.

Congratulations to the following recipients:

UNIT CITATION

Battalion Chief Daniel McCleese
Captain Kevin Richards
Captain Dustin Schultz
Captain Zachary Sites
Lieutenant Michael Deatley
Lieutenant Robert Dimmel
Lieutenant Lonnie Fugate
Lieutenant Nicholas Hendon
Lieutenant Casey Hennessey
Lieutenant Keith Kraus
Lieutenant Michael Mishler
Lieutenant Zachary Ramey
Lieutenant Mark Waldrop
Technician II Ryon Blehr

Technician II Lea Brady
Technician II Zachary Burnette
Technician II Stefon Comacho
Technician II Johnathan Carter
Technician II Bobby Cook
Technician II William Cornwell
Technician II Casey Coulter
Technician II Michael Cox
Technician II Joseph Gallagher
Technician II Kenneth Guiles
Technician II Timothy Heard
Technician II Joshua Herron
Technician II Ryan Johnson
Technician II Jeremiah Kerlin

Technician II Dale Mincks, Jr.
Technician II Carl Nunziata
Technician II Brian Pelletier
Technician II Alexander Pion
Technician II Chet Prailey
Technician II Thomas Sedell
Technician II Michael Shaw
Technician II Amanda Sheil
Technician II Neil Shoults
Technician II Joseph Tate
Technician II Jennifer Taylor
Technician II Eric Weaver
Technician II Richard Blair
Technician I Jared Estes

-more-

March 23, 2026

First Responders Honored During Medal Day Ceremony

Page 2

UNIT CITATION (cont'd)

Technician I Nicholas Hoffmaster
Technician I Kevin Knesley
Technician I Thomas MacKow
Technician I Charlie McCoy
Technician I Alan Means Ontivero Campo
Technician I George Neiser
Technician I John Peddle
Technician I Christopher Peters

Technician I Ryan Sinclair
Technician I Joshua Van Wyk
Technician I Nicholas Vargas-Silva
Carlos Aguilera, DCVFD
Makayla Costanzo, DCVFD
David Edwards, DCVFD
Farrah Elam, DCVFD
Lindsey Jennings, DCVFD

Robert Kumpe, DCVFD
Samuel Porter, Jr., DCVFD
Rodrigo Salas Hidalgo, DCVFD
Jayla Williams, DCVFD
Jabin Young, DCVFD

LIFESAVING

Captain Tyler Diettert
Captain John Gillis
Captain Bryan Janda
Captain Joseph Melvin
Lieutenant Robert Ardaiole
Lieutenant James Bourque
Lieutenant Austin Davis
Lieutenant Luke Deatley
Lieutenant Robert Howard
Lieutenant Zachary Ramey
Lieutenant Paul Taylor

Lieutenant Gregory Thomas
Technician II Shawn Bliss
Technician II Zachary Burnette
Technician II Joseph Galvin
Technician II Ethan Kim
Technician II Michael Lamb
Technician II Brianne McCluskey
Technician II Clive Monnity
Technician II Geoffrey Prall
Technician II Randy Williams
Technician I Stuart Anderson

Technician I Michael Casey
Technician I Tye Clinton
Technician I Adrienne Kelly
Technician I Kevin Knesley
Technician I Cole Ladue
Technician I Nolan Murphy
Technician I Elijah Settle
Technician I Joshua Van Wyk
Technician I Benjamin Young

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Battalion Chief Robert Moreau
Captain Barbara Cafini
Captain Mike Darabond
Captain Brian Reader
Lieutenant Joshua Dempsey
Lieutenant Nick Feliciano
Lieutenant Jonathan Hartmann
Lieutenant Helton Pereira
Lieutenant Jeremy Reed

Lieutenant Ross Shannon
Technician II Jason Guimond
Technician II Bailey Heider
Technician II Gregory Klatter
Technician II Jeremy Lonas
Technician II James McCue
Technician II Neftali Mena
Technician II James Spengler
Technician II Matthew Truslow

Technician II Eric Weaver
Technician I Isaac Brooks
Technician I Hunter Edwards
Technician I Evan Hamilton
Technician I Michael Woods
Brian Misner, EM Coordinator
Taylor Jones, Assistant EM Coordinator
Firefighter Steve Hailey, DTVFD

TECHNICIANS OF THE YEAR

Technician II Emily Baden

Technician II Gregory Klatter

-more-

March 23, 2026

First Responders Honored During Medal Day Ceremony

Page 3

OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

Captain David Wesley

Lieutenant Robert Dimmel

CHIEF'S COMMENDATION

Battalion Chief Jason Reese
Battalion Chief Robert Wyks
Captain Nakia Baskerville
Captain Joseph Hopper
Captain Samuel Kaye
Lieutenant John Malley
Technician II Rafael Miera Martinez
Jennifer Lund, Occupational Health
Enzo Ochoa, Occupational Health

Jessica Masten, Occupational Health
Hunter Zuccarell, Occupational Health
Rebecca Kaltman, M.D., Saville Cancer Center
Abby Lamb, Saville Cancer Center
Liz Stark, Saville Cancer Center
Becky Trupp, Saville Cancer Center
Bryan Bassig, Saville Cancer Center
Salman Baig, Saville Cancer Center

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

Lieutenant Joshua Dempsey
Lieutenant Ross Shannon
Technician II Aldo Bonilla

Technician II Daniel Yowell
Technician I Connor Armstrong
Technician I Tyler Bane

SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

Technician II Francis Nurthen IV

Technician I Tyler Bane

-end-