



**FAIRFIELD  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
AWARDS CEREMONY**

Fire Training School  
205 Richard White Way

Thursday, October 12, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

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Introduction – Deputy Chief Kyran Dunn

Welcome – Chief Denis McCarthy

Incident Narratives - Lt Robert Smith

Distribution of Certificates & Bars – Chief and Deputy Chief

Closing - Fire Commission Secretary Liam Burke

### **Incident #22-9690 – I-95 Southbound Exit 23-22 – UNIT CITATION**

At 00:01 hours on December 12, 2022 the Emergency Communications Center received a call for the report of a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Interstate 95 Southbound.

Upon arrival, AC Sherwood and FF Krajcsik in Car 3, found a single car accident with the operator trapped under the front of the car with his arm under the right front tire. The patient was lying just in front of the front wheels with his head just visible on the passenger side.

The crews on company two, under the command of Lt Jordan Charney who rapidly initiated a lifting and stabilizing operation taking great care to ensure the protection of the operator from being crushed by the car. The patient was rapidly extricated and turned over to AMR for transport.

The patient suffered multiple rib fractures and soft tissue injuries as well as two herniated disks in his spine requiring surgery. After recovering from his injuries in the hospital, the patient was released and returned home to his family.

For their actions under extreme pressure at this incident, with the patient's life hanging in the balance, AC Schuyler Sherwood and FF Peter Krajcsik are awarded the Unit Citation for Valor.

### **Incident #23-10936 – 414 Kings Highway East – RUSSELL AWARD**

In the afternoon of March 26, 2023, the ECC received a call for a motor vehicle accident with a male driver unresponsive in the motor vehicle.

Car 3 and Company 2, under the command of AC Kalapir, arrived on scene and found the patient in cardiac arrest. Personnel immediately extricated the patient and began CPR, in addition prepared the AED and Cardiac Compression Device to deliver advanced prehospital lifesaving care. The patient's respirations were assisted with high flow oxygen via bag valve mask.

The patient was moved to the ambulance and was transported to St. Vincent's Medical Center for further treatment with FF Kibbe assisting. While enroute to the hospital the patient regained a pulse and respirations. The patient was treated at the hospital and after a short rehab was released to return home to make a full recovery.

For their actions at this incident the following personnel are presented with the David W. Russell, Jr. Exceptional Medical Service Award: AC Erik Kalapir, Lt Robert Delmhorst, FF Timothy Ward, FF Brian Kibbe, FF Peter Ayoub, FF Justin Renda, FF Nicholas Lacroix, FF Nicholas Demko.

### **Incident #23-14665 – 2390 Easton Tpk (Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course)–RUSSELL AWARD**

In the afternoon of June 23, 2023, the ECC received a call for a man that had collapsed while playing golf on the fifth fairway.

Engine 3, under the command of Lt Smith, arrived on scene and was transported by golf cart with their medical equipment to the patient's location. Once at patient's side, Engine 3 found the patient in cardiac arrest with a civilian performing CPR. Personnel immediately took over compressions and continued CPR while preparing the AED and CCD to deliver advanced prehospital lifesaving care. The patient's respirations were assisted with high flow oxygen via bag valve mask.

Engine 3 administered one shock with the AED attempting to restore the patient's heart rhythm prior to the arrival of AMR. Upon arrival, AMR found the patient to have a restored heart rhythm but still in respiratory distress. FF Heath continued to assist with patient respirations as the patient was moved to the ambulance and prepared for transport.

FF Hubbell drove the ambulance to St. Vincent's Medical Center so that additional life saving measures could be administered by AMR while enroute to the hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital the patient was intubated and placed in a medically induced coma. The patient underwent a successful surgery to install an internal defibrillator and pacemaker. The patient was extubated a few days after his procedure and after a short rehab was released to return home to make a full recovery.

For their actions at this incident the following personnel are presented with the David W. Russell, Jr. Exceptional Medical Service Award: Lt Robert Smith, FF Erik Hubbell, FF George Heath.

#### **Incident #23-16259 - Hemlock Hills Road South – RUSSELL AWARD**

In the morning of July 26, 2023, the ECC received a call for a man that was having difficulty breathing. Prior to the arrival of fire personnel, the patient became unresponsive.

Engine 4, under the command of Lt Trembley, arrived on scene and was escorted by family members to the patient's location. Once at patient's side, Engine 4 found the patient in cardiac arrest with a Fairfield Police Officer performing CPR. Personnel immediately took over compressions and continued CPR while preparing the AED and CCD to deliver advanced prehospital lifesaving care. An oral airway was inserted to ensure the patient had an open airway and the patient's respirations were assisted with high flow oxygen via bag valve mask.

Engine 4 delivered one shock with the AED attempting to restore the patient's heart rhythm prior to the arrival of AMR. Once on scene AMR continued with the advanced lifesaving care already underway by Engine 4. Units then developed and executed a plan for extricating the patient from the basement to the awaiting ambulance outside, utilizing a "Mega Mover" patient transport device and pure strength and determination.

The patient was transported to St. Vincent's Medical Center with FF Haller assisting enroute. The patient was transported to the Cath lab to undergo critical cardiac care which was successful. After an extended stay at the hospital the patient was released and able to return home. With physical and occupational therapy, the prognosis for the patient's full recovery is anticipated.

For their actions at this incident the following personnel are presented with the David W. Russell, Jr. Exceptional Medical Service Award: Lt Scott Trembley, FF Jeffrey Janik, FF Mackenzy Haller.

#### **Incident #23-17056 – Putting Green Road – RUSSELL AWARD**

In the afternoon of August 12, 2023, the ECC received a call for a man that was having an allergic reaction from multiple bee stings.

Engine 3, under the command of Lt Trembley, arrived on scene to find the patient slumped over against the screen door between the house and the breezeway. The patient was diaphoretic, purple in color and was not breathing.

The crew of Engine 3 repositioned the patient to establish an airway and immediately began rescue breathing treatments, all while being continually stung by angry bees. FF Batchelor prepared and administered one dose of life saving epinephrine prior to the arrival of the ambulance. AMR arrived on scene and the patient was quickly prepared for transport to the hospital for further emergency medical treatment.

For their actions at this incident the following personnel are presented with the David W. Russell, Jr. Exceptional Medical Service Award: Lt Scott Trembley, FF Craig Vaporis, FF Andrew Batchelor.

## **Medal Description and Criterion** (in order of valor)

### **Chief Thomas J. Carol Medal of Honor**

Awarded for an outstanding act in the line of duty with imminent personal hazard of life and full knowledge of risk involved.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Joseph J. Stopa Life Saving Award**

Awarded for an act performed in the line of duty with thorough disregard of personal safety or where prompt alert action results in the saving of a life.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Joseph S. Elias Meritorious Service Award**

Awarded for a highly unusual accomplishment under adverse conditions with some degree of hazard to life and limb or where death or injury to a third party is prevented.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Honorable Service Medal**

A credible act in the line of duty which meets some but not all of the requirements for other medals. This action unusual in nature by showing initiative and accomplishment.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Unit Citation for Valor**

Awarded to members of a unit cited for duties performed with the confidence and professionalism that is consistent with heroic efforts as seen in the fire service.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **David W. Russell Jr. Exceptional Medical Service Award**

For exceptional actions beyond the norm at an emergency medical call resulting in the saving of a life.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Exceptional Duty Medal**

Awarded for a highly credible accomplishment bringing public acclaim to the individual or department as a result of training, devotion to duty or service to the public.

(Recommended by the Medal Review Board and Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Commissioner's Achievement Award**

An act or achievement by a member of the department including the Chief bringing public acclaim to member or department through programs that further the efficiency of the department or contributions to the advancement of the fire service as a professional.

(Awarded solely by the Fire Commission)

### **Chief's Medal**

Awarded to an individual who in the opinion of the Chief improved fire department operations or contributed to the community in a positive way.

(Awarded solely by the Chief of the Department)

### **Education Award**

Awarded to an individual who achieved a degree in a fire science related field.

(Awarded by the Fire Commission)

### **Chief's Letter of Recognition**

Awarded to an individual for actions which are deemed worthy of recognition.

(Awarded solely by the Chief of the Department)