



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Media Contact: Clarissa Howard 407-599-3343 or cell 407-948-2044

RANDALL A. MELLS RECEIVES 2007 FIRE MARSHAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

CITY OF WINTER PARK

401 Park Avenue South

Winter Park, Florida

32789-4386



WINTER PARK, Fla., a nationally recognized Silver Circle Award and National Merit Award winner (June 23, 2008) – On April 15, 2008, the Governor and the Cabinet of the State of Florida awarded Captain Randall A. Mells with the 2007 Fire Marshal of the Year Award. This recognition is bestowed on a fire marshal who has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities, innovation, professional development, integrity and service to the citizens of Florida. More than 600 fire marshals statewide are eligible for the Fire Marshal of the Year Award, but according to the Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors' Association, Captain Mells' diligence and commitment to the protection of citizens earned him the title.

Mells began his career with Orange County Fire-Rescue in Orlando, Fla., and has been employed with the City of Winter Park for 15 years, working his way up through the ranks from Firefighter/EMT to Fire Inspector to his current position of Captain/Fire Marshal. In his role as Fire Marshal, Mells has directed the activities of the Office of the Fire Marshal in a community with opportunities for development, redevelopment and annexations. His leadership has resulted in continued positive relationships with city, county and state representatives.

In addition to his duties as captain, Mells also leads the Regional Juvenile Fire Setter Program that specifically works with youth who have been involved with the curious and malicious act of fire setting. He is also affiliated with the Florida Fire Chiefs Association, Fire Marshal Association, Association of Public Information Officers, Association of Life Safety Educators, Juvenile Fire Setters Network for the Ninth Judicial District, Central Florida Drowning Prevention Task Force, Orange County Safe Kids Coalition, and the National Information Office Association.

For more information regarding the City of Winter Park Fire-Rescue Department, please visit the city's official web site at

www.cityofwinterpark.org. # # #