

PRESS RELEASE

For Release Wednesday, May 18, 2011
Liberty Township Fire Department

Today, the Ohio Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Medical Services and Ohio Association of Emergency Medical Services (OAEMS) in conjunction with the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) Star of Life Awards ceremony as part of their National EMS Week recognition. These awards are in recognition of various First Responders and emergency medical service organizations, and special recognitions for exceptional service to their communities. Liberty Township Fire Department, serving Powell and Delaware County, was nominated and selected as the **“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE OF THE YEAR 2011”** for the State of Ohio!

The awards were presented at a special ceremony held at the Dept. of Public Safety on Wednesday May 18, 2011 at 9:00 am. Liberty Township Fire Department was recognized in particular for advancing the ‘Special Needs Registry’. Liberty Township Fire Department was nominated by Dr. William Cotton, Medical Director and Sherri Kovach, RN, EMS Coordinator of Nationwide Children’s Hospital with special recognition of Capt. William Piwtorak and the Liberty Township Fire Department Staff for their work on this project. Liberty Township worked to create a regional network with all of the County’s first responder agencies and the Delaware County GIS and IT specialists to improve upon the concept and applications. Chief Tim Jensen accepted the award on behalf of the Department and Liberty Township noting that “this award is fantastic and confirms our fire department staff’s commitment to practicing high quality EMS and recognizes that progressive programs such as the Special Needs Registry can work.” Liberty Township Trustee Chairperson Robert Mann said, “It is an honor for our Department to receive this recognition and award. It is a tribute to our Department which has the most important job in our Township, saving lives. Our Department has been at the forefront of innovation and implementation of best practices, including implementing the 'Special Needs Registry', Opticom system upgrades and other technologies to provide the highest quality of service to our residents. It is a proud moment for our Fire Department and EMS Service."

Liberty Township Fire Dept. Medical Director of over 22 years, Dr. Warren Yamarick, also the Director of Riverside ER Department, spoke to the award as well, “This type of recognition of the Liberty Twp. Fire Department, Captain Piwtorak and the teamwork they have in place is no surprise to me after all these years, I am glad to see the acknowledged for their efforts and the leadership in patient care improvements!”

Liberty Township Fire Department serves the City of Powell, City Manager Steve Lutz said, “We have always enjoyed receiving top quality fire and EMS services and this award confirms what our residents have known for many years.”

The nomination was selected based on criteria established by a state wide selection panel, redaction of data that might allow for any personal biases and complete fact checking by the panel. For further information and details please contact Fire Chief Tim Jensen, or EMS Captain Bill Piwtorak at 740-938-2021 or 740-923-0135.