



For Release: **MEDIA INVITED**

Contact: Firefighter Frank Correggio
Public Information Officer

Date: March 1, 2010

Phone: (561) 982-4012
Cell: (561) 239-1941

Boca Raton Fire Chief Recognized For Work In Haiti

Boca Raton: On January 12, 2010 a significant earthquake had occurred in Haiti. This tragedy touched millions of people around the world. It also touched someone at Boca Raton Fire Rescue, Assistant Fire Chief Dave Woodside. Chief Woodside, through his church has made many trips to Haiti to help the people there. He had made a great many friends and was very concerned about the event that had just taken place. By January 14th Chief Woodside had organized Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department effort to collect and store needed relief items for later shipment out of the Port of Palm Beach. On January 20th after requesting "Annual Leave", Chief Woodside took a commercial flight to the Dominican Republic. While there his church group purchased 50,000 pounds of food and other supplies and made daily round trips from Santo Domingo to the Haitian border. Exhausted, with less than 3 hours of sleep each night, Chief Woodside returned home on January 30th.

For his "willingness to act and his selfless dedication to humanitarian needs" Chief Woodside will be awarded the Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services "**Citizen Courage Award**".

Fire Chief Tom Wood will also recognize the following members of Boca Raton Fire Rescue who will receive the departments "**Excellence Award**".

Firefighter Chris Owen for his work in Hazardous Material, Rope Rescue and Confined Space Rescue training.

Firefighters Marcus Cooper, Matt Grunke and Supply Officer Brunner Ward for their commitment, dedication and effort during the field testing and evaluation of firefighter's personal protective equipment.

Please join us at 11am on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at Fire Administration Building, 6500 Congress Avenue in the auditorium.

For additional information please contact Frank Correggio at 561-239 -1941.

****Photos by Jay Bell**

#96-Fire Chief Tom Wood and Assistant Chief Dave Woodside

#05-Fire Chief Tom Wood, Firefighter Chris Owen, Supply Officer Brunner Ward, Firefighters Marcus Cooper, Matt Grunke and Assistant Chief Dave Woodside

City of Boca Raton

FIRE-RESCUE SERVICES DEPARTMENT • 6500 Congress Avenue, Suite 200 • BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33487 • PHONE: (561) 982-4000
FOR HEARING IMPAIRED) TDD: (561) 982-4059
FAX: (561) 982-4050



