

Nominee: Deputy Chief Lathey Wirkus

Fire Department/Agency: Elizabeth New Jersey Fire Department/Union County Fire Mutual Aid

State: New Jersey

Explanation: Deputy Chief Wirkus has an undying passion for the fire service, with his commitment to the Elizabeth Fire Department serving as a Deputy Fire Chief, Union County Fire Mutual Aid serving as the head Mutual Aid Coordinator and UASI Fire/CBRNE Sub-Committee Chair for the State of New Jersey. Deputy Chief Wirkus over the years has received countless awards and has been featured in firehouse magazine sharing his story of being caught in a flashover. Deputy Chief Wirkus has brought millions of dollars in grants featuring equipment and services to the Northern New Jersey UASI region. Also, through his position as a Mutual Aid Coordinator, Chief Wirkus has brought Fire Departments together both career and volunteer like never before in the history of Union County. All firefighters in Union County know his name and respect him; Deputy Chief Wirkus is firm but fair to everyone while making sure Everyone Goes Home. Most recently Deputy Chief Wirkus assisted the Roselle Park Fire Department in acquiring a grant for a new Rescue Apparatus and sat on the committee in his free time to assist in developing this huge asset to the Borough and County of Union. Deputy Chief Wirkus should be selected in recognition for his great dedication to the firefighters of Union County, NJ.

Name of person submitting nomination: Engineer Patrick L. Wirkus

Fire Department / Agency: Roselle Park New Jersey Fire Department