



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

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Vigilant Hose Company member receives top state-level award

Emmitsburg, Md. Vigilant Hose Company Member, Elyssa Cool, was awarded the prestigious *Silver Spring Fire Prevention Trophy* on June 20th during the 125th Anniversary Conference and Convention of the Maryland State Firemen's Association in Ocean City. The award is the highest Fire/Rescue prevention-related recognition in the State of Maryland and is presented each year at the MSFA Annual Convention to an individual who does the most in fire prevention for his/her community.

The award is for an individual effort rather than a group or department effort. Commenting on the award, VHC President Frank Davis said, "We are very proud of Elyssa and her great work helping our community and neighboring communities with safety messaging and presentations. She enjoys the support of our entire organization as she helps our personnel to successfully reach out to the public with numerous year-round fire and life safety initiatives."

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~ Background on the award follows below.

SILVER SPRING TROPHY AWARD Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA)

Purpose of Award: Recognition of fire prevention efforts by an individual.

Award Sponsor: Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Award Administered By: M.S.F.A. Fire Prevention Committee and Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office

Background: The Silver Spring Trophy was established in 1981 by the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by the Executive Committee. The award is presented each year at the MSFA Annual Convention to an individual who does the most in fire prevention for his/her community. The award is for an individual effort and, therefore, submission of the entry had to be for one individual rather than a group or department effort. The award recognizes fire prevention activities which the individual performs within his/her community. The trophy is held by the individual for one year and then passed on. The winner receives an individual plaque for permanent possession.

Award Rules:

1. The recipient must be a volunteer firefighter.
2. The individual must be nominated by the fire department/company.
3. The fire prevention work shall have been done by the firefighter acting in the capacity of a volunteer.
4. The nomination must be in the form of a resume indicating complete detailed information on the work done by the nominee. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources noted.
5. The nomination and related information must be in the hands of the State Fire Marshal's Office - No Later Than April 30th each year.
6. Nominees are subject to investigation by the judges.
7. Dates of the fire prevention activities are for the previous calendar year (January – December).
8. Judges are appointed by the State Fire Marshal's Office, in accordance with the MSFA Fire Prevention Committee's procedures.
9. The decision of the judges is final.
10. Nominations had to include the nominee's name, title, fire department name, and other pertinent information.
11. Nominations packages are submitted to: MSFA Annual Fire Prevention Contest, State Fire Marshal's Office

MSFA Website Link - <http://www.msfa.org/content/annual/SilverSpringTrophy.cfm>