

# NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Amanda Fontaine  
MF MBA Executive Director  
(601) 540 – 2995  
[afontaine@mfmmba.org](mailto:afontaine@mfmmba.org)



## MISSISSIPPI FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL BURN ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2009-2010 FIREFIGHTERS HALL OF FAME “FIRE CHIEF OF THE YEAR”

(Jackson, MS) – The Mississippi Firefighters Memorial Burn Association recently honored outstanding firefighters for exemplary job performance in 2009-2010. Ten top firefighters and three fire departments were recognized during “*Hearts for Heroes*,” a special awards gala presented by Cellular South and held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Jackson, fondly known as the King Edward Hotel. The Valentine-themed event featured cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, a silent auction and live music by The Carlton’s. Finalists and winners received awards sponsored by the Joseph M. Still Burn Centers, Inc. and Pro-Fire Equipment, LLC. Nominations were received from across the state of Mississippi in the following categories - *Rookie of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Fire Chief of the Year* and *Fire Department of the Year*. The top three finalists in each category were honored.

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## *Fire Chief of the Year, 2*

### **2009 – 2010's Fire Chief of the Year FINALISTS**

**Henry Davis** of the Gluckstadt Volunteer Fire Department and **Josh Swales** of the Reservoir Fire Department were selected as finalists for the 2009-2010 Fire Chief of the Year. Fire Chief of the Year nominees must have demonstrated outstanding management of their department and heroic service to the community.

#### **PHOTO CUTLINE I (FINALISTS):**

MFMBAs 2009 – 2010 Firefighters Hall of Fame Fire Chief of the Year Finalists (**Front Row L-R**): **Jeff Kuntz**, *Pro-Fire Equipment*, **Dr. William C. Lineaweaver**, *Joseph M. Still Burn Center at Crossgates River Oaks Hospital*, **Fire Chief of the Year FINALIST Chief Henry Davis**, *Gluckstadt Volunteer Fire Department*, **Fire Chief of the Year FINALIST Assistant Chief Josh Swales**, *Reservoir Fire Department*, **Amanda Fontaine**, *MFMBAs Executive Director* and **Mike Chaney**, *Mississippi Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshall*.

### **2009 – 2010 Fire Chief of the Year WINNER**

**Chief Tom Lariviere** of the Madison Fire Department was awarded the MFMBAs FIREFIGHTERS HALL OF FAME 2009 – 2010 Fire Chief of the Year. With 30 years of career experience as a firefighter, Chief Lariviere's resume is impressive. A veteran of the United States Marine Corp, Chief Lariviere is currently the head of the City of Madison Fire Department, an Associate Instructor with the State Fire Academy and Chair of the State Board of Appeals for the State Fire Code. He has served as President of the Firefighters Association and The Fire Chiefs Association, and is a lifetime member of both. Having received numerous nominations, it is evident that Chief Lariviere is respected and admired for his leadership and knowledge and is described as the epitome of a fireman, US Marine, leader and All-Around American.

#### **PHOTO CUTLINE II (WINNERS):**

MFMBAs 2009 – 2010 Firefighters Hall of Fame Fire Chief of the Year Winner (**Front Row L-R**): **Jeff Kuntz**, *Pro-Fire Equipment*, **Dr. William C. Lineaweaver**, *Joseph M. Still Burn Center at Crossgates River Oaks Hospital*, **Fire Chief of the Year WINNER Chief Tom Lariviere**, *Madison Fire Department*, **Amanda Fontaine**, *MFMBAs Executive Director* and **Mike Chaney**, *Mississippi Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshall*.

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