

DEPARTMENT: Fire Protection

BY: Jim Wilson, Fire Chief

PHONE: 966-4330

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

The Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution recognizing and commending all agency personnel involved in the live rescue and suppression of a local structure fire on March 15, 2008. Personnel from Mariposa County Fire Department, Mariposa County Sheriff's Department, M.P.U.D Fire District and CAL-FIRE are to be commended for the highest standards of public service and professionalism that resulted in saving two lives. *present medals of Valor to: Jeff Totton, Jim Middleton & John Juleshi*

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Resolutions for outstanding community efforts have been approved in the past.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Forego an opportunity to focus attention on the cooperation and mutual aid assistance between emergency services agencies.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Financial Impact? () Yes (x) No | Current FY Cost: \$ | Annual Recurring Cost: \$ |
| Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded | | |
| Amount in Budget: \$ | | List Attachments, number pages consecutively |
| Additional Funding Needed: \$ | | Resolution |
| Source: | | |
| Internal Transfer | | |
| Unanticipated Revenue | 4/5's vote | |
| Transfer Between Funds | 4/5's vote | |
| Contingency | 4/5's vote | |
| () General () Other | | |

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: *08-250* Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: *5* Noes: _____
 Absent: _____
 Approved
 Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
 Comments: _____

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
 Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
 County of Mariposa, State of California
 By: _____
 Deputy

CAO: *[Signature]*



COUNTY of MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

LYLE TURPIN, CHAIR
DIANNE A. FRITZ, VICE CHAIR
BRAD ABORN
JANET BIBBY
BOB PICKARD

DISTRICT II
DISTRICT IV
DISTRICT I
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT V



MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: JIM WILSON, Fire Chief

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *mw*

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Recognizing and Commending all Agency Personnel Involved in the live Rescue and Suppression of a Local Structure Fire on March 15, 2008 from Mariposa County Fire Department; Mariposa County Sheriff's Department; M.P.U.D. Fire District; CAL-FIRE and Mercy Medical Transportation; and Presentation of Medals of Valor to: Jeff Totten, Jim Middleton and John Faleski

RESOLUTION 08-250

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on June 17, 2008

ACTION AND VOTE:

Jim Wilson, Fire Chief;

Adopt a Resolution Recognizing and Commending all Agency Personnel Involved in the live Rescue and Suppression of a Local Structure Fire on March 15, 2008 from Mariposa County Fire Department; Mariposa County Sheriff's Department; M.P.U.D. Fire District; CAL-FIRE and Mercy Medical Transportation; and Presentation of Medals of Valor to: Jeff Totten, Jim Middleton and John Faleski

BOARD ACTION: (M)Pickard, (S)Aborn, Res. 08-250 was adopted recognizing the agency personnel/Ayes: Unanimous. Supervisor Bibby read the resolution into the record and the resolution was presented to Chief Wilson/Mariposa County Fire, Sheriff Muller/Mariposa County Sheriff's Department, Mariposa Public Utility District Fire District, CAL FIRE, and Merced Medical Transportation, Inc.

Sheriff Muller presented a Medal of Valor to Sheriff Sergeant Jeff Totten, and he commended the volunteer firefighters for their service. Jim Wilson presented a Medal of Valor to Battalion Chief John Faleski and to Deputy Chief Jim Middleton of Mariposa County Fire.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to the following for their participation in the event:

Mariposa County Fire: Deputy Chief Jim Middleton, Battalion Chief John Faleski, firefighter Kevin Jackson, Captain Richard Shelton, firefighter Mark Jones, Captain Marcella Good, firefighter Daniel Goulet, firefighter Ron Setterberg, and firefighter John Lilley; and the following were unable to be present: Captain Harve Dearing, Captain Steve Kitchen, firefighter David Sizemore, firefighter Richard Hulbert, firefighter Jerry Jay, Division Chief Hal Nolen, firefighter Cliff Tolstrup, firefighter Steve Sabol, firefighter Enrique Mendez, and firefighter Dana Felix;

Mariposa County Sheriff's Department: Sergeant Jeff Totten, Deputy Chris Boehm, and Deputy Jeff Weaver;

Mariposa Public Utility District Fire District: the following were unable to be present: Captain Dennis Buck and firefighter Mark Lingenfelter;

CAL FIRE: the following were unable to be present: Battalion Chief Bernard Quinn, Captain Troy Cheek, Captain Eugene Potkey, and Engineer Jeff Newman; and
Merced Medical Transportation, Inc.: the following were unable to be present: paramedic Jonathan Knauf and EMT Jennifer Knauf.

Cc: Brian Muller, Sheriff
File

MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER 08-250
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MULTI-AGENCY PERSONNEL FOR ACTS OF
VALOR DEMONSTRATED AT THE GRANITE DOME STRUCTURE FIRE
LIVE RESCUE AND SUPPRESSION

WHEREAS, on Saturday afternoon, March 15, 2008, an extraordinary team of individuals from Mariposa County Fire, Mariposa County Sheriff, Mariposa Public Utility District (MPUD), Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc. and Cal Fire exemplified the ideal of valor in their actions during a structure fire at 4625 Granite Dome Road in the Ben Hur area of Mariposa County; and

WHEREAS, at 4:45 PM an initial page alerted responders from Mormon Bar, Bootjack, MPUD, and Cal Fire to a reported residential structure fire; and

WHEREAS, Battalion Chief John Faleski and Sheriff Sergeant Jeff Totten arrived nearly simultaneously. Initial report on conditions indicated a fully involved structure with victims trapped inside. Chief Faleski requested a second alarm that included an Emergency Medical Services response. Less than a minute later, Deputy Chief Jim Middleton arrived and joined the rescue effort. While searching the home's perimeter, Sergeant Totten and Chief Faleski observed 71-year-old Charles Countz standing inside the dining room with open flames and dark acrid smoke swirling about his head and shoulders. With fire rolling overhead, they stepped inside the structure and pulled Mr. Countz to safety; and

WHEREAS, once Mr. Countz was safe, Sergeant Totten continued his search for the second victim. Rounding the corner, he found Chief Middleton with 92-year-old Jean Countz just outside the house, again with acrid smoke and flames rolling overhead out window and door openings. Mrs. Countz was rescued from her threatening environment; and

WHEREAS, Chief Middleton and Sergeant Totten carried Mrs. Countz to a safe area, provided immediate care, and loaded her in a rescue basket. Both victims were quickly transported to John C. Fremont Hospital suffering from extensive burns and airway compromise; and

WHEREAS, while the second rescue was occurring, Chief Faleski assumed command of the incident and ordered additional resources as needed. With a response from Mormon Bar, Bootjack, Mt. Bullion, Catheys Valley, Lushmeadows, Cal Fire, and MPUD, the fire was controlled in just over one hour; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the valiant actions of Chiefs Jim Middleton and John Faleski and Sheriff Sergeant Jeff Totten, Jean Countz and Charles Countz were rescued. As a result of decisive action by Battalion Chief Bernard Quinn and Cal Fire Engine 4262 led by Captain Eugene Potkey, one bedroom containing irreplaceable documents and precious family possessions was saved and preserved from further harm; and

WHEREAS, while it is natural to recognize those who performed life saving acts of valor, all firefighting operations require a team effort. This presentation recognizes the efforts of everyone who came together to save lives and preserve precious property on March 15, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, hereby recognize the acts of valor demonstrated by the personnel involved in the life rescue and suppression of the Granite Dome structure fire.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County this 17th day of June, 2008 by unanimous vote.

BRAD ABORN, District I Supervisor

DIANNE FRITZ, District IV Supervisor

LYLE TURPIN, District II Supervisor

BOB PICKARD, District V Supervisor

JANET BIBBY, District III Supervisor