



# Roanoke County Fire & Rescue Department News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Roanoke Co. Fire & Rescue receives Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS**

ROANOKE COUNTY, VA (January 9, 2013)— The Roanoke County Board of Supervisors recognized Public Education Specialist Brian Clingenpeel of the Fire & Rescue Department for having received the **2012 Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children.**

As the public education specialist for Roanoke County Fire and Rescue, Brian has been instrumental in establishing a safe community for children while dedicating his time to the creation of education and prevention programs. Many of his fire and life safety-based programs have been implemented or used as models across the state. Some of those programs include, the Juvenile Fire-Setter Program, which was developed by Brian to educate children on the severity of burn injuries and how to prevent them. This program has been recognized by the Roanoke County Juvenile Court Services and it refers juveniles who enter the court system due to a fire incident. He is also a member of the Safe Kids Coalition for Roanoke Valley and is the president of the Western Virginia Public Educators Association, which focuses on child safety. Brian's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly appreciated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The annual Governor's EMS Awards Program began in 1986 and has been endorsed by each Governor to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals, agencies and community organizations and businesses that provide or help support emergency medical care in Virginia.

The Governor's Awards program is administered by the Office of EMS, in cooperation with Virginia's 11 Regional EMS Councils. Each Regional EMS Council conducts the awards program in their community, holds an awards ceremony and publicizes the winners, bringing much needed recognition to Virginia's EMS providers and agencies. In June, Brian received the Regional EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children and then moved on to participate at the Commonwealth level.

The regional winners were submitted to the Governor's EMS Awards Selection Committee who reviewed the nominations and forwarded its recommendations for the Awards winners to the Governor's office.



*Chairman Michael Altizer (far right) recognizes Public Education Specialist Brian Clingenpeel (pictured with award in hand) for having received the Governor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children. Also shown (l-r): Division Chief Steve Simon, WVEMS Rob Logan, Division Chief Todd Maxey, and Chief Richard E. Burch, Jr.*