State Fire Marshal Presents Plain Township Fire Chief with Distinguished Service Award
*Rupp has Devoted Nearly 50 Years to Improving Ohio’s Fire Service*

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) — State Fire Marshal Kevin S. Reardon presented Plain Township Fire Chief Jack Rupp with the Ohio Fire Service Distinguished Service Award tonight for nearly 50 years of dedication to his community.

Rupp has served as chief of the Plain Township Fire Department, located in New Albany, since July 23. He joined the department as assistant chief in 2002, following a 29-year career with the Madison Township Fire Department that ended with his retirement in 2000.

“This is bittersweet for me, because I’ve known Jack for decades,” said Marshal Reardon. “I’m really proud and honored to be able to present this award to Jack tonight. You’re going to find very few firefighters who can match his accomplishments, his longevity, and his desire to better the fire service in his community.”

Marshal Reardon honored Chief Rupp virtually during this evening's meeting of the Plain Township Board of Trustees. Rupp was also recognized by Assistant Chief Will Anderson of the Euclid Fire Department, who nominated him for the prestigious award.

Rupp’s contributions to the fire service extend far beyond his work in the firehouse. Throughout his career, he has dedicated his time to many organizations, including the south-central district of the Ohio Fire Chiefs’ Association, the Central Ohio Strike Team, and the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Center operations board.

He has also served on the Ohio EMS board and is a founding member of the Franklin County Firefighters/Grant Medical Center Paramedic Program. Aside from being a career firefighter, Rupp is also a public safety instructor, fire safety inspector and HAZMAT technician.

This is the 40th year of the annual Ohio Fire Service Hall of Fame and Fire Awards, presented each year by the Ohio Department of Commerce’s Division of State Fire Marshal and Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Division of EMS. Tonight’s ceremony marked the second event hosted by the State Fire Marshal’s office.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Rupp and this year’s 11 other honorees are being recognized individually at smaller, more intimate award ceremonies in their home communities or online.

-more-

Connect with us!

*com.ohio.gov/fire*
This award is handed out annually to outstanding individuals whose contributions to, and leadership of, the fire service within Ohio have been a milestone in the development of those services; whose actions have served not just their community but have contributed significantly to the fire service on a regional, statewide and/or national basis; and, whose leadership and accomplishments in these areas are widely recognized and respected in the Ohio fire service.

Rupp is the 56th individual to receive the Distinguished Service Award, which was one of only two awards handed out during the first Hall of Fame ceremony in 1980.

“I’m very humbled to be receiving this award alongside some truly outstanding individuals around the state,” Chief Rupp said during the ceremony.

Chief Jack Rupp of the Plain Township Fire Department.

###

The Division of State Fire Marshal is part of the Ohio Department of Commerce. The department is Ohio’s chief regulatory agency, focused on promoting prosperity and protecting what matters most to Ohioans. We ensure businesses follow the laws that help them create jobs and keep Ohioans safe. To learn more about what we do, visit our website at com.ohio.gov.

The Ohio Department of Public Safety, through the Division of EMS, oversees the certification of emergency medical technicians and firefighters and ensures that the professionals in these lifesaving roles are properly trained, educated and prepared for emergency situations.