



NEWS RELEASE

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OXENDINE ANNOUNCES 2008 WINNERS OF LIFE, FIRE & SAFETY AWARDS

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John W. Oxendine presented awards Thursday recognizing Georgia fire personnel and citizens for outstanding service in fighting fires and saving lives at the annual “Life, Fire & Safety” Awards Luncheon, held at in Atlanta.

The program recognized individuals and organizations that excel in fire safety.

Winners of the “Excellence in Fire Safety” Awards were:

Firefighter of the Year – Wayne Henderson – Walker County Fire Department
Fire Official of the Year – Thad Dixson – Savannah Fire Department
Fire Safety Educator of the Year – Kristi Hill – DeKalb County Fire Department
Fire Safety Educator of the Year – Judith Samuels – Crawford County Fire Department
Fire Safety Prevention Program of the Year – Bolingbroke Volunteer Fire Department
Citizens Award of Courage (17 and under) – Haden Stusak – Fayette County
Citizens Award of Courage (18 and older) – Coty Peardon – Walker County
Youth Fire Setter Intervention Program – Gwinnett County Fire Department

Contestants in the poster and essay contests were required to reflect this year’s theme, “Prevent Home Fires,” in the entries they submitted.

First-place winners of the Fire Safety Poster Contest were:

Sky Raiford – Kindergarten – Heard Elementary School – Franklin
Jake Harrod – 1st Grade – Ephesus Elementary School – Roopville
Carlos Baker, II – 2nd Grade – V.L. Heard Elementary School – Savannah
Kailia Youngblood – 3rd Grade – Sarah Cobb Elementary School – Americus
Aspen Baker – 4th Grade – Ephesus Elementary School – Roopville
Elise Reyes – 5th Grade – Sarah Cobb Elementary School - Americus

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Fire Safety Award winners

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First-Place winner of the Fire Safety House Essay Contest were:

Riley Laslay – Kindergarten – Cowan Road Elementary School – Griffin
Allyssa Bussell – 3rd Grade – Sandersville Elementary School – Sandersville
Malyk Mahoney – 3rd Grade - Burgess-Peterson Elementary School - Atlanta

First-place winners of the Fire Safety Essay, open to all students from grades six through 12, were:

Keldon Crimes – 6th Grade – Eagle's Landing Middle School – McDonough
Jacob Hickman – 7th Grade – Bagley Middle School – Chatsworth
Ashley Kirby – 8th Grade – Dawson County Middle School Dawsonville
Mario Sucar – 9th Grade – Sequoyah High School – Canton
Kenyard Crimes – 10th Grade – Eagle's Landing High School – McDonough
Autumn Jackson – 11th Grade - South Forsyth High School – Cumming
Maximiliano Vasquez, III – 12th Grade - Peachtree Ridge High School – Suwanee

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