



City of Yakima

News Release

Subject: Fire Department National Award

**Contact: Y.F.D. Public Education Captain Thomas A. Schneider – 576-6353
Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142**

Release Date: Friday, August 2nd, 2013

Yakima Fire Department Receives National Recognition

A life and death rescue of a man trapped inside a burning mobile home in West Valley last fall has received national attention. The Yakima Fire Department (“YFD”) and firefighters from Engine 92 and Engine 293 recently received a 2012 Heroism and Community Service Award from Firehouse Magazine for their bravery and quick response.

The national publication receives hundreds of nominations from across the country annually and only presents a limited number of awards each year.

Responding to a call on October 2nd, 2012 in the 7600 block of Nob Hill Boulevard, firefighters were alerted that a man was still inside a doublewide mobile home that was quickly becoming engulfed in flames. Firefighters made their way into the burning mobile home and found the man trapped in a back bedroom. The YFD firefighters used a chain saw to cut out a window and pulled the 55-year old man, who was suffering from burns and smoke inhalation, to safety.

“Our firefighters utilized their ability to think quickly, their training, and their physical strength and saved a life that day,” said Yakima Fire Chief Dave Willson. “We’re very proud of them. We have an excellent crew of outstanding and highly trained firefighters here in Yakima. This incident, and the recognition it’s brought us from Firehouse Magazine, is proof of that,” said Willson.

The Yakima City Council also honored the firefighters from Engine 92 and Engine 293 with a Yakima Fire Department Commendation on November 6th, 2012 during a Council meeting.

- end -