



The Salina Fire Department is Selected for a Top National Honor

On July 20th, the Salina Fire Department was informed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) that the department had been selected as one of the seven finalists to receive the “IAFC - US Safety Engineering Award for Excellence.”

The letter received from Judging Coordinator, Ron Coleman, states:

“Please accept our congratulations for receiving this auspicious recognition. The finalists have been forwarded to the Past Presidents of the IAFC who serve as the selection committee to pick the top award winner. The IAFC will be recognizing the finalists on August 27th during the ceremonies to be conducted at our annual conference in Chicago.”

The Salina Fire Department’s “Performance Analysis Process” was selected as a finalist from hundreds of innovative programs across the United States. This innovative process was featured in the Kansas Government Journal in March of 2008 and in the International Association of City Manager’s Public Management Magazine in August of 2009. The article from Public Management Magazine is attached to this press release for program information purposes.

Reacting to the news of the selection, Fire Chief Larry Mullikin, had this to say:

“It’s really humbling to realize that there are 30,000+ fire departments in the United States and that the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) represents the leadership of over 1.2 million firefighters and emergency responders. IAFC selected our community, our fire department, and our firefighters as having one of the seven best programs in the country. The selection is a credit to our firefighters, our fire officers, our City Manager, City Commission and our partners with the County – the County Administrator and County Commission.

No doubt these are trying economic times, but I think the average citizen should take note of the dedication, planning, and effort that is put into their safety and protection of their property. It doesn’t happen by chance. It’s not a coincidence. It’s through professional management at all levels, allocation of community resources as a priority to life safety, and a relentless drive to be efficient and effective with those resources. I am

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very proud of the men and women of this department, as you should be. In my mind, it's like winning an Oscar.”

Cosponsored by the IAFC and U.S. Safety Fire Technologies, the “IAFC US – Award of Excellence” recognizes innovations and achievements in managing resources to reduce the loss of life and property from fire and other emergencies. More information on the award and history may be found at <http://www.iafc.org/>.

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