

NEWS RELEASE

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North Metro Firefighters Receive State and National Honors from Veterans of Foreign Wars

Northglenn/Broomfield, CO – The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) recognized two firefighters from North Metro Fire Rescue District on Thursday, June 16, with state and national awards for their excellence in emergency care. Captain Rich Randall and Engineer Mike Dawson received the awards at the Department of Colorado VFW’s State Convention in Colorado Springs in front of a large room of fellow veterans.

Captain Randall received the Firefighter of the Year award from the state VFW along with the VFW National Firefighter Award. The awards recognized Randall for his excellence in leadership while serving over 35 years in the fire service. Randall was also noted for his service towards the community, including an initiative to create a special trailer that provides a private and more welcoming place for children to be decontaminated after they’ve been removed from residences housing methamphetamine-producing laboratories.

Randall served in the U.S. Army Reserves as an infantry medical specialist when he began his career as a volunteer firefighter for West Adams County Fire Protection District. He was later hired on as a full-time professional firefighter in 1980 at West Adams County Fire, now North Metro Fire, and worked his way up the ranks.

Engineer Dawson received the EMT of the Year award from the state VFW as well as the VFW National EMT Award. Once a reserve naval corpsman who served in a fleet hospital with the Marine Corps, Dawson later went on to become a respiratory therapist at a hospital and then a respiratory therapist and paramedic for Flight for Life early on in his career.

In 2004, Dawson joined North Metro Fire as a firefighter/paramedic and has received multiple Heartsaver Awards from the District for saving patients in cardiac arrest. He has also been recognized by the District and community for his care and compassion towards the patients he serves. Dawson was promoted to engineer for North Metro Fire in 2015.

In May, Randall and Dawson were recognized by the Broomfield VFW Post 9565 at a local luncheon. The local VFW nominated the two firefighters for the state and national awards.

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North Metro Fire Rescue District

North Metro Fire Rescue District is dedicated to providing quality service to its residents. North Metro Fire Rescue provides fire protection, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response and rescue services to our community. Formed in 1946, the District now covers 63 square miles with a population of approximately 111,000 people including the City and County of Broomfield, the City of Northglenn and unincorporated areas of Adams, Boulder, Jefferson and Weld Counties.