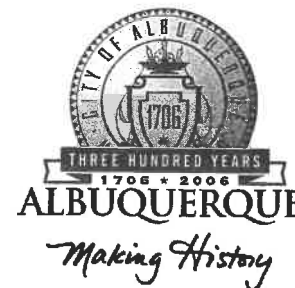


CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 3, 2008

Fire Fighter Matthew Sanchez
Albuquerque Fire Department
123 Dallas NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Dear Matthew:

I have received a letter of commendation from Fire Commander Robert Sanchez on your professionalism and abilities.

I would like to personally thank you for a job well done! The Albuquerque Fire Department is truly represented by the best fire fighters in the country. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert E. Ortega". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "O".

Robert E. Ortega
Fire Chief

Attachment

Cc: Personnel File

P.O. Box 1293

Albuquerque

New Mexico 87103

www.cabq.gov

January 01, 2008

Robert Ortega
Fire Chief, Albuquerque Fire Department
11510 Sunset Gardens S.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87121

Re: Structure Fire – 1024 Alvarado Dr. S.E. Incident # 75302 Sunday, Dec. 9 2007

Mission Statement – Albuquerque Fire Department

The Albuquerque Fire Department will save lives, protect property and the environment with emphasis on firefighter safety and survival.

The professionalism exhibited by the responders at the above event epitomizes the fulfillment of this mission statement.

Battalion 2 arrived on scene to a medium sized, two story apartment building showing heavy smoke and flame from a unit on the first floor. Engine three arrived and was assigned Fire Attack Sector. Squad two arrived and assigned to assist E3 with advancing hand lines to support search and rescue. Engine eleven provided water supply and augmented Fire Attack. Rescue eleven arrived and assigned to perform a primary search and evacuate occupants as needed. Engine five announced their arrival and assigned RIT duties.

The following actions occurred simultaneously:

While performing primary search of the apartments in the involved area, Lieutenant Paul Dow (Engine 3) observed an occupant pointing to the second story and heard an individual crying out. Lt. Dow ascended the stairs through an intense flame front and found an individual trapped on the landing. Squad 2 Driver, Steve Navarrete, witnessed the activity, reported this to Engine 5 crew, (staged in the immediate area), and advanced to assist. Engine 5 crew immediately responded. Engine 5 Driver, Raymond Gutierrez, removed the 24 foot extension ladder, (single handed), delivered it to the area it was needed and allowed engine 5 crew to initiate rescue operations. Engine 5 Lieutenant, Carlos Montoya, (first shift as a promoted Lt.), climbed the ladder and assisted Lt. Dow with helping the individual onto the ladder. Engine 5 Firefighters Matthew Sanchez and Brennie McCoy performed the terminal portion of the rescue. Driver Navarrete controlled the considerable crowd, providing for responder safety.

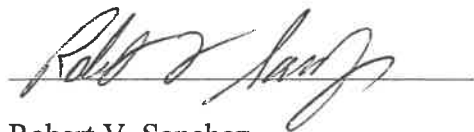
During this activity, Squad 2 Captain, Tomas Benavidez, remained in charge of the fire attack and provided Command with updates of ongoing rescue and suppression operations. All other responders remained focused and dedicated to their assignment. Without this professionalism, the rescue and confinement of the fire to one unit would have been jeopardized.

Sir, I request formal recognition of all responders with a unit citation. I also request individual recognition of those specifically mentioned above. I ask that a copy of this letter and any other documentation be placed in the respective individual's employment file.

Units Dispatched:

Engine 3	Engine 5	Engine 11	Engine 13
Lt. P. Dow	Lt. C. Montoya	Lt. M. Palmer	Lt. G. Blea
Dr. M. Gonzales	Dr. R. Gutierrez	Dr. R. Brown	Dr. D. Ortega
FF. M. Trujillo	FF. M. Sanchez	FF. D. Esquibel	FF. B. Jackson
FF. J. Fejer	FF. B. McCoy III	FF. R. Romero	FF. S. Lucero
Ladder 13	Ladder 5	Rescue 11	Rescue 5
Lt. M. Orona	Capt. J. Sigurdson	Lt. S. Tovar	Lt. J. Hansen
Dr. J. Valdez	Dr. L. Baca	Dr. R. Padilla	Dr. R. Laprise
FF. R. Garcia	FF. Z. Menzie		
Squad 2	Squad 3		
Capt. T. Benavidez	Capt. R. Collado		
Dr. S. Navarrete	Dr. J. Lopez		
FF. O. Mora			
FF. R. Waddles			

Sincerely,



Robert V. Sanchez
Commander, Battalion 2 "C"

CC:
Craig Sadberry – Deputy Chief, Operations
All Responders
IAFF 244
File