

## ***St. Lucie County Fire District News Release***

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### **Emerson Named Florida's Fire Marshal of the Year**

*St. Lucie County, FL* – St. Lucie County Fire District Deputy Chief Buddy Emerson was recently named Florida's Fire Marshal of the Year by the Florida Fire Marshals & Inspectors Association.

“Chief Emerson has been instrumental in gaining the cooperation from the business community to comply with fire codes,” explained Fire Chief Ron Parrish when nominating him for the honor. “He has also been able to continue to provide fire prevention services, including inspections and investigations, despite cutbacks in this department.”

Emerson was commended for pursuing alternative revenue sources and championing the use of “green” technologies and energy reduction programs, and for spearheading the District's recent Insurance Services Office Evaluation which could lower fire insurance premiums for residents and businesses throughout the County.

Deputy Chief Emerson has been with the SLCFD since 1992. He became a Fire Inspector/Investigator in 1997. He was promoted to Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal in 2005 and to Deputy Chief in 2006. Deputy Chief Emerson is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and will complete his Master's Degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership this February.

Emerson was honored at a banquet during the annual Florida Fire Marshals & Inspectors Conference in Clearwater, FL last month. At the awards dinner, he credited the team efforts of the District's personnel for his success. Emerson is married and lives in Fort Pierce with his wife, Peggy, and sons, Clark and Oliver.

