

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

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### **St. Lucie County Firefighters receive Firemark Award**

*St. Lucie County, FL* – Three St. Lucie County Firefighters recently received the Liberty Mutual Firemark Award for actions they took to save a life while they were off duty.

Firefighter/Paramedic Tat Choi was recognized for responding to a young man who collapsed while playing basketball at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center. He began CPR and used an AED on the patient. Choi, who was off duty at the time, had been in another part of the Civic Center when he responded.

A few days early, FF/Engineer David Reeves and FF/Paramedic Brian Gulde had responded when a man collapsed after competing in a 5K race at the Civic Center. They began CPR and used the same AED to revive the patient. Both firefighters had been spectators at the 5k race.

The Liberty Mutual Firemark Award was started in 1996 to honor firefighters who assisted in a heroic lifesaving effort without regard to their own safety. The award was presented at the July Fire Board Meeting, on Wednesday, July 21.

The names of all three firefighters will be entered into a list of all winners throughout the nation. One national winner will be selected by an independent committee made up of firefighter associations. The national winner receives a \$10,000 donation to their fire department as well as a three night, four day all-expenses paid trip for four to Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL.

### (outline on next page)

Cutline: Fire Board Commissioners and Liberty Mutual representatives join SLCFD firefighters who were recent winners of the Firemark Award. Pictured, from left to right, Commissioner Eddie Becht, Fire Chief Ron Parrish, Commissioner Chris Cooper, FF/Engineer David Reeves, Commissioner Charles Grande, FF/Paramedic Brian Gulde, Commissioner Rufus Alexander, FF/Paramedic Tat Choi, Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson, Liberty Mutual representative Lisa Rodriguez, Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky, and Liberty Mutual representative Jason Heaney.