



Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office

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WALTER R. WILSON
SHERIFF

For Immediate Release

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Special Commendations Presented by Sheriff Wilson

Sheriff Walt Wilson proudly presented Deputy John “Ryan” Hamilton with a Lifesaving Award and Firefighter Chris McCoury with a Civilian Citation, as a result of their actions on September 18th, 2012. While traveling on Dover-Zoar Road to an assignment, Deputy Hamilton came across an overturned vehicle with its engine on fire. Deputy Hamilton quickly approached the vehicle and found the driver, Lacy Jones, still in the vehicle. Discovering that he could not open any of the doors due to damage suffered in the crash, Deputy Hamilton noticed that the fire was growing. Deputy Hamilton contacted 911 Central Dispatch for assistance. Within moments, Chris McCoury, a Zoar Volunteer Firefighter, appeared on the scene with a fire extinguisher and attempted to put out the fire. Unsuccessful in his efforts, Firefighter McCoury then joined Deputy Hamilton and together, they were able to pry a door open and pull Ms. Jones to safety. By that time, the fire had quickly spread and had reached the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Because of their actions, Deputy Hamilton received the Lifesaving Award and Firefighter McCoury received the Civilian Citation. The Lifesaving Award is awarded to a deputy for saving a human life and the Civilian Citation is awarded to for meritorious action such as life saving or assistance to a deputy with disregard for the recipient's personal safety.

Sheriff Wilson stated, “Deputy Hamilton and Firefighter McCoury deserve to be recognized for their efforts. Their quick actions saved Ms. Jones. It is that simple. I am honored to issue these special commendations to them.”