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Contact: Gregory L. Rohde
202-292-4603
glr@e911institute.org

E9-1-1 Institute Honors 10-Year-Old for Life-Saving Action

The E9-1-1 Institute has chosen 10-year-old Dustin Nelon from North Richland Hills, Tex., as the winner of its 2006 "Citizen in Action" award. This award honors someone who demonstrated exceptional bravery and heroism to save a life in a critical time using 9-1-1.

Dustin was chosen because of his presence of mind during an emergency call he made last year when his father, a diabetic, became unconscious and Dustin called 9-1-1. During the eight-minute call, Dustin answered questions from the dispatcher, took care of his father and looked out for emergency help. Dustin described his father's condition to the dispatcher and without being prompted, checked his father's pulse and temperature. He advised the dispatcher that his father's pulse was normal and that his father didn't have a fever. Dustin's father's condition was life-threatening and Dustin's quick action may have saved his father's life.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the E9-1-1- Institute, said, "Dustin's clear thinking and ability to remain calm during a crisis is a perfect example of how a 9-1-1 dispatcher and a person needing help can work together. The fact that Dustin is only 10 years old is even more remarkable."

The award will be presented at a March 8th ceremony in Washington, D.C.

About the E9-1-1 Institute. The E9-1-1 Institute (www.e911institute.org) is a not-for-profit organization, which provides administrative and policy support to the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The purpose of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues and serve the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus as a clearinghouse of information on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, serves as the E9-1-1 Institute's Executive Director.

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