



For Immediate Release
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E9-1-1 Institute Honors Loudon Officer with 2006 First Responder Award

The E-911 Institute in Washington, D.C., has named Loudon, Tenn., police officer Jonathan Yates as the recipient of its First Responder Award for 2006.

Yates was off duty on November 9, 2005 when he heard sirens and a dispatch call for a house on fire near his own home. Yates rushed to the scene. Without any protective equipment or breathing apparatus, he broke into the house and rescued 10-year-old Melinda Torres from the burning structure. He went back into the house to look for others to rescue, but had to turn back because of the intense smoke and heat that led to the deaths of four of the house's residents.

Gregory L. Rohde, executive director of the E9-1-1- Institute, said, "To Officer Yates being a policeman is not just a job, it is calling to protect and serve his community – whether he is on duty or not. The Institute is proud to highlight him as reminder to us all of the kind of self-less dedication many men and women in uniform possess."

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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