



# Certificate of Recognition

## 2020 Firefighter of the Year

### D. Justin Rishel

Firefighter Rishel has been a member of Dalton Fire Department since January 2003. During his time with the department, he has proven to be a valuable asset through his tireless work ethic and drive to become a better firefighter.

Since joining the department, Justin has proven himself to be a very well-rounded firefighter. He has a passion for the fire service which has led him to a love for everything related to the profession. He has involved himself in and become proficient training, technical rescue, investigations, and fire prevention. When Justin was recently reassigned to the Training Division, his company officer stated that “losing him to another assignment will create a void that will not easily be filled”. Justin has also helped instruct multiple subjects in our recruit program over the years. While on shift, he served as A-shift’s hazmat representative and routinely planned and delivered training on the various topics within that arena. He also delivered instruction to all three shifts on the use of thermal imaging cameras and various techniques for their use. It has been said by the leadership on A-shift that Justin is widely regarded as the “senior firefighter” on the shift. Having this designation does not come via a promotion. Instead, this term of endearment is earned through the respect of his peers due to his knowledge and work ethic.

During his short tenure in the Training Division, Captain Dempsey stated that Rishel has exhibited excellence in the performance of his assigned duties. Captain Dempsey also stated the following: “he has performed above expectations while continuing to learn more about the Training Division, interpersonal dynamics, and teambuilding strategies. In addition, his passion for the job and thirst for knowledge are second to none”. While serving in the Training Division, Justin has assisted with the delivery of Recruit Class 2019-01, training at the Underwood Circle acquired structures, and numerous other programs.

Firefighter Rishel sets an example for others to follow and is eager to help others become better within our chosen profession. For all of these reasons, Firefighter Rishel has been nominated and voted on by his peers as Dalton Fire Department’s 2020 Firefighter of the Year.

1/28/2020

Date

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Todd Pangle, Fire Chief