



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Mayor and Board of Commissioners

THROUGH: Robin Gomez, City Manager

FROM: Clint Belk, Fire Chief

DATE: 3/22/2023

**RE: Firefighter of the Year, Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Wasilewski**

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### **Background**

Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Wasilewski started his career with Madeira Beach Fire Department in early 2021. During the past 22 months, FF Wasilewski demonstrated an outstanding work ethic and a positive attitude toward both fellow firefighters and citizens in the community. The members of Madeira Beach Fire Department have nominated Firefighter Michael Wasilewski as Firefighter of the Year for 2023.

FF Wasilewski is highly praised by his peers for his drive, competence, and positive attitude. Mike possesses a cooperative attitude and steps up when necessary to assist members of the Department. In recent months, he has taken the lead role in assisting the probationary firefighter on his shift with becoming a successful MBFD firefighter. FF Wasilewski eagerly volunteered, and is near completion of his Acting Driver Engineer program, which will fill a need for coverage on his shift and for the Department. He also took the initiative to become a marine operator. In addition, he is 4 classes away from receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Safety Administration.

Firefighter/Paramedic Wasilewski is a good clinician with remarkable bedside manner. He demonstrates evident knowledge on emergency scenes and works diligently on his assigned responsibilities. Mike leads by example for physical health; he makes sure to incorporate physical fitness training into his regular routine to assure he's ready for emergency situations and encourages others to do the same. FF Wasilewski is professional and has a strong work ethic; always remembering to represent the department in a positive light in public.

Before becoming a professional firefighter, Mike served in the US Marine Corps from 2011 to 2015. In 2012, he was deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom to Helmand Province in Afghanistan. His service does not end there, in addition to being a veteran and a firefighter, he is also a substitute teacher and a lifeguard.



FF Mike Wasilewski is a well-rounded firefighter, paramedic and is an exceptional representation of a Madeira Beach Firefighter. In recognition of his dedication to the public service it gives me great pleasure to announce Mike Wasilewski as Firefighter of the Year for 2023.

**Fiscal Impact**

**Recommendation**

**Attachment(s):**

