



# DeKALB COUNTY Fire & Rescue Department

## NEWS RELEASE

**DAVID FOSTER**  
Director/Fire Chief

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## DeKALB FIRE CHIEF RECEIVES MEDAL OF HONOR

**DECATUR-** On January 10, 2006, in an unprecedented presentation for a fire chief, Chief

Executive Officer Vernon Jones presented DeKalb County Fire Rescue Chief David Foster with the department's highest award during a ceremony that brought tears to the eyes of family and co-workers.

In a ceremony held at the DeKalb Board of Commissioner meeting, DeKalb's top fire official received the departments' highest award bestowed upon an individual for an act of unforeseeable and unremarkable bravery with no immediate regard for ones' own personal safety. DeKalb Fire Rescue officials involved with the department's award committee carefully evaluated the incident and decided that Fire Chief David Foster deserved this prestigious award. The incident that took place on August 11, 2005 was one that Pine lake residents remember ever-so vividly in which an uncooperative motorist

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Unpredictably took the life of Pine Lake Police Officer Francis Ortega before turning the gun on himself resulting in a fatal wound.

“All the important things Fire Rescue has done over the last several years has not been me, but has been done collectively by 830 tremendous people that spend 24 hours a day fighting fire and saving lives,” states DeKalb Fire Rescue Chief David Foster in thanking the firefighters for the hard work they do.



**During a surprise presentation, DeKalb County Chief Executive Officer Vernon Jones pins the *Medal of Honor* on DeKalb County Fire & Rescue Chief David Foster.**

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