

Rep. Swearingen: Chief Eric Johnson to receive First Responder of the Year award

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MADISON— State Representative Rob Swearingen (R-Rhineland) has announced that Boulder Junction Fire Chief Eric Johnson will receive the 2021 “First Responder of the Year” award for the 34th Assembly District.

Chief Johnson was nominated by Dennis Reuss, Boulder Junction Town Chairman.

“This is strictly a volunteer position. Eric is a quiet man, who serves without the need for recognition. That’s why I am happy to nominate him,” said Dennis.

“Eric is the most humble hero that I know. He is 100% committed to the safety of people in Boulder Junction—they are really lucky to have him,” Rep. Swearingen said.

Chief Johnson manages the Boulder Junction Fire Department. He is a leader in town education, fire prevention, and mitigation programs. He has an active role as a community/department member with the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to promote Fire prevention/safety measures. He leads by example providing safety assistance at numerous events in the area. Eric has responded to hundreds of calls throughout his career preventing both losses of property and loss of life. He has never hesitated to answer the call of duty.

Eric has served his community with professionalism and humility for 20 years. He sets an example for departments around the state,” Rep. Swearingen said.

The “First Responder of the Year” award was created in 2019 to recognize the brave men and women who serve in our emergency services. State representatives from

each legislative district seek nominations from their communities and select one individual who best exemplifies community service, selflessness, and dedication. Recipients receive a legislative citation recognizing their achievements and are honored in a public ceremony with other recipients from across the state on the Assembly floor.

This year's ceremony is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, October 26th for First Responders Appreciation Month.