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## 72<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District First Responder of the Year: Dustin Lease

**Madison** – State Representative Scott Krug (R-Rome) presented Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department Firefighter Dustin Lease with the 2021 "First Responder of the Year" award during the Assembly floor session on Tuesday. The state Assembly honored Mr. Lease in a public ceremony with other recipients from across the state for First Responders Appreciation Month.

"Dustin is everything that a First Responder should be: compassionate, brave, and earnest," Representative Krug said. "Wisconsin Rapids and the state of Wisconsin is fortunate because of Mr. Lease's commitment."

Mr. Lease was treating a patient suffering from an active heart attack during transportation to a clinic when his team encountered a traffic accident involving a motorcyclist. Through his training, Mr. Lease was able to determine the heart patient to be stable enough for the ambulance to proceed to the clinic and receive further treatment there while Mr. Lease remained at the scene of the accident to successfully address the life-threatening injuries suffered by the motorcyclist.

"Wisconsin's first responders are some of the best among us," Representative Krug concluded. "While others run from danger, they run towards it with open arms ready to help."

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 identify an individual who best exemplifies community service, selflessness and dedication. The recipients from this year included police officers, sheriff's deputies, firefighters, and all levels of EMS personnel.

Along with providing each award recipient with a legislative citation recognizing their achievement, the state Assembly also passed a resolution declaring October 28<sup>th</sup> First Responders Appreciation Day.

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The 72nd Assembly District includes portions of Adams, Portage, Waushara and Wood Counties.