



Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[Bravery Honored]

[South Beloit, IL]– Two firefighters will be honored at the South Beloit Fire Department on Friday June 27, 2014 for a heroic rescue they performed a year ago. On June 25, 2013 the City of Beloit Fire Department, Wisconsin with mutual aid from the Beloit Police Department, Rock County Sheriff's Department, and South Beloit Fire Department responded to a swift water rescue call on the Turtle Creek behind 1301 East Stateline Road. South Beloit Fire Department's Assistant Chief Mike Davenport and Firefighter Kevin Schulz entered the swollen Turtle Creek to rescue two stranded canoeists. Their efforts supported by the response contingency resulted in the retrieval of the two victims Autumn Nelson, 18, and Levi Cahill, 18.

The swollen creek was flooding the area and the water was rising. In the face of swift moving water and debris Davenport and Schultz entered the water at different times to affect the rescues. Both did so with minimal protection, while being pummeled and shielding the victims from the onslaught of floating debris. Each will receive a Citation for Bravery. The two were nominated by Acting Lieutenant Jason Griffin of the City of Beloit Fire Department who was on scene that day assisting with the rescue.

Since this rescue the City of Beloit and South Beloit Fire Department have formed a joint Swift Water Rescue Team and have continued to build resources and capacity to respond to these complicated high risk low frequency events.

An award presentation will take place at the South Beloit Fire Department, 429 Gardner, South Beloit, IL, June 27, 2014 at 9am.