



## UNIVERSITY PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

## **Personnel Commendation**

Presented on June 4, 2013 - City Council Meeting

## Names of employees commended:

Person making commendation:

Chief Howell

Joe Watkins

Matt Milner

Jesse Branum

Casey Graves

George Jones

Paul Abel

Brandon Ferguson

## **Details of commendation:**

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 a fire and subsequent explosion at a fertilizer plant located in West, TX resulted in the death of fifteen people and injured over two hundred more. Twelve of those killed were firefighters attempting to control and extinguish the fire. As a result of these deaths, a call went out to fire departments across the country to assist with a massive deployment of honor guard members. These members would be asked to fill ceremonial guard post positions, some of which would require twenty-four hour coverage.

This letter of commendation is issued to members of the University Park Fire Department Honor Guard who responded to this request by assisting with coordination of staffing and rotation of guards, providing casket watch, acting as guard at individual funeral services and memorials, assisting with body transfers, and participating in graveside services.

The actions of these members of the UPFD Honor Guard can be described as "above and beyond the call of duty" and serve as a demonstration of their commitment to the characteristics of honor, pride, and service to others as it applies to our profession.

Randy Howell, Fire Chief

Distribution:

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