

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Santa Clara Unit



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South Santa Clara County Fire District 2014 Volunteer Firefighters of the Year

Morgan Hill – 2014 was a very active year for the South Santa Clara Fire District volunteer firefighters. The volunteers as a whole dedicated 2,338 operational hours in 2014. These hours are combined from attending training, staffing equipment at local medical and fire standbys and of course responding to emergencies. This year was a challenge for us to choose our volunteer firefighter of the year. We believe all of the volunteer's went beyond the call of duty with their dedication to the fire district and their community. This was very difficult decision but we have decided to choose two volunteer firefighters of the year. These two men have shown so much dedication to the program that we are proud to present Kevin Murray and Chris Lanser as our South Santa Clara County Fire District 2014 volunteer firefighters of the year.

Kevin has been one of our volunteer firefighters for 14 years. He is only one of two licensed drivers of our equipment. Kevin is married to his wonderful wife Jessica and they have two young children. The SSCCFD thanks his family for being supportive and understanding with him being a firefighter with SSCCFD. We are very thankful that Kevin's employer, Sabor Farms in Hollister supports him in being a volunteer firefighter. There were numerous times in 2014 that Kevin was able to leave work for emergencies or was even allowed to not show up to work due to an emergency call. In 2014 Kevin responded to 49 emergencies or standbys with 246 hours dedicated to the department and that does not include training hours. During the year Kevin responded to 9 vegetation fires, 7 residential structure fires, 10 station cover assignments, 4 vehicle fires, 6 calls for standby, 4 commercial structure fires, 4 vehicle accidents and 5 other incidents.

Chris has been one of our volunteer firefighters for 5 years. He lives with his girlfriend Amanda and his dog who according to his girlfriend is his pride and joy. The SSCCFD would like to thank both of them for supporting him as a volunteer firefighter. Chris has two jobs and he usually works 7 days a week, both companies that he works for; Silva Ranches and Feed store and Star Concrete are supportive of Chris being a volunteer firefighter in allowing him to respond to emergencies from work and being late to work due to emergencies. Even while working seven days a week Chris responded to a total of 42 emergencies or standbys in 2014 with 245.5 hours dedicated, which does not include monthly training. Chris responded to 8 vegetation fires, 6 residential structure fires, 5 vehicle accidents, 8 station cover assignments, 3 commercial structure fires, 6 standby calls, 2 vehicle fires and 4 other incidents.



Left to Right: Firefighters Chris Lanser and Kevin Murray

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