



TEMPLE TERRACE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE



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TEMPLE TERRACE HONORS 2006 “FIRE DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. 4/11/07) – Jose Rincon, a young man who has lived in America only seven years, was named Temple Terrace’s 2006 “Fire Dispatcher of the Year” during an awards ceremony Tuesday at Temple Terrace City Hall.

Rincon, 25, has been a dispatcher with the City since 2004. He moved to the area from Colombia, South America, in 2000. He also is a student at Hillsborough Community College.

“It feels really good to be a part of this agency, and to win this award,” Rincon said. “I wasn’t expecting it at all.”

To be selected “Fire Dispatcher of the Year,” Rincon had to exceed the emergency protocol requirements of the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch, which set rigorous standards for telecommunication professionals in fire, police and emergency medical services.

Rincon also is the City’s only dispatcher who speaks fluent Spanish.

The City currently has 12 emergency telecommunicators, with openings for two more.

This week, the Temple Terrace Communications Center has been celebrating National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (April 8-14, 2007). The week is dedicated to honoring the hard-working, dedicated individuals who provide 9-1-1 assistance to callers across the country.

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