



News

**Office of the Fire Chief
Timothy M. Butler**

100 East Eleventh Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

May 20, 2009

Fire Chief Butler Will Commend Citizens for Performing CPR

Contact: Fire Marshal Steve Zaccard
651-315-5689

For Immediate Release

On Friday, May 22, 2009, at 10:00a, Saint Paul Fire Chief Tim Butler will award letters of commendation to two citizens who selflessly performed emergency CPR on a waiting bus passenger. The awards will be given in a ceremony to be held at Fire Station 22, 225 Front Ave. in Saint Paul.

On a cold morning, March 6, John Coulter witnessed a fellow MTC bus passenger collapse into cardiac arrest at a bus stop at Horton and Van Slyke Avenues in Saint Paul. He told the approaching bus driver, Mike Carter, to have his dispatcher call 9-1-1. After notifying his dispatcher, Mr. Carter joined Mr. Coulter in performing CPR on the stricken 54 year old man until paramedics arrived. Paramedics from Medic 22 were able to restore the victim's pulse, but sadly he died in the hospital the next day.

Chief Butler and the City of Saint Paul wish to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Mr. Coulter and Mr. Carter with Letters of Commendation in the presence of their families, friends, co-workers, and paramedics. Both men had CPR training and had the courage to use it. Their heroic actions gave the victim's family some more precious time with their loved one.

The letters are enclosed and media will have an opportunity to meet with them at the end of the ceremony.

May 22, 2009

John Coulter
1121 Churchill St.
Saint Paul, MN 55103

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

Dear Mr. Coulter:

On the Saint Paul Fire Department we work hard to save lives every day. However, it's extraordinary when a devoted citizen has the training and courage to try to make a difference in someone else's life. Your devotion to your fellow citizens on the morning of March 6, 2009, is what makes the City of Saint Paul America's Most Livable City.

At six o'clock in the morning you witnessed a fellow waiting passenger collapse at a bus stop at the intersection of Horton and Van Slyke Avenues in Saint Paul. After unsuccessful attempts to flag down a motorist with a cell phone, you stopped an approaching MTC bus driven by Mike Carter. Mr. Carter called his dispatcher to notify 9-1-1 and then the two of you performed Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation on the 54-year-old man until paramedics arrived.

As a result of your heroic efforts, crew members of Saint Paul Fire Department Medic 22 were able to restore a pulse in the victim. You gave this stranger every chance to survive this life-threatening event. Sadly, despite the efforts of medical staff, the victim passed away in the hospital the next day. John, you gave family and friends extra precious time to spend with him which is a gift beyond measure.

Despite the victim's outcome, your actions exemplified the courage, compassion, and brotherhood of all great citizens. As a CPR instructor in the United States Army you know the tremendous value of "citizen CPR". You never know when you will need to perform CPR to save the life of a friend, a family member – or even a stranger. Therefore, I am proud to award you this LETTER OF COMMENDATION for the heroic actions and dedication to the Saint Paul community that you demonstrated on that cold March morning. You are a credit to our community and we are grateful for your extraordinary actions.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Butler, Fire Chief

cc: Mayor Coleman, City Council Members, Fire Marshal Zaccard

May 22, 2009

Mike Carter
3970 McKinley St. N.E.
Columbia Heights, MN

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

Dear Mr. Carter:

On the Saint Paul Fire Department, we work hard to save lives and property every day. However, it's extraordinary when a devoted citizen, who has the training and courage to use it, tries to make a difference in someone else's life. Your devotion to your fellow citizens on the morning of March 6, 2009, is what makes the City of Saint Paul America's Most Livable City.

At six o'clock in the morning while you were driving your MTC bus northbound on Van Slyke Avenue, Mr. John Coulter, while waiting for the bus, witnessed another waiting passenger collapse into cardiac arrest at the bus stop at Horton Avenue in Saint Paul. He flagged you down to have your dispatcher call 9-1-1. After notifying your dispatcher, you and Mr. Coulter performed Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation on the 54-year-old man until paramedics arrived.

As a result of your heroic efforts, crew members of Saint Paul Fire Department Medic 22 were able to restore a pulse in the victim. You gave this stranger every chance to survive this life-threatening event. Sadly, despite the efforts of medical staff, the victim passed away in the hospital the next day. Mike, you gave family and friends extra precious time to spend with him which is a gift beyond measure.

Despite the victim's outcome, your actions exemplified the courage, compassion, and brotherhood of all great citizens. As a member of the Centennial Fire Department for ten years, you were trained in CPR, so you know how important CPR is to saving the life of a friend, a family member – or even a stranger. Therefore, I am proud to award you this LETTER OF COMMENDATION for the heroic actions and dedication to the Saint Paul community that you demonstrated on that cold March morning. You are a credit to our community and we are grateful for your extraordinary actions.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Butler, Fire Chief

cc: Mayor Coleman, City Council Members, Fire Marshal Zaccard