

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION DEPUTY JOSHUA BEENEY

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, January 31, 2006, Rancho Santa Margarita Deputy Joshua Beeney and Sergeant John Stanley arrived at the scene of a house fire, and found it was impossible to enter the house from the front because the garage was fully engulfed in flames, and black smoke was pouring out of the front door; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Beeney, Sergeant Stanley and a male neighbor jumped over a 6-foot wooden fence at the rear of the home, and

WHEREAS, when someone shouted that the homeowner was lying on the ground just inside the open sliding glass door, Deputy Beeney immediately dropped to the ground and began to crawl through the door toward the victim; and

WHEREAS, with black smoke hovering 12 inches above the floor, Deputy Beeney reached the homeowner and dragged him out of the residence with the assistance of Sergeant Stanley; and

WHEREAS, because it was not possible to climb over the fence with the injured homeowner, and needing to escape the heat and flames of the rapidly encroaching fire, Deputy Beeney proceeded to kick the fence down, injuring himself in the process; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Beeney and the homeowner were both treated at the scene by paramedics, then transported to Mission Hospital where the victim was treated for smoke inhalation and Deputy Beeney was treated for a torn Achilles tendon, which subsequently required surgery.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James M. Thor, Mayor, on behalf of the City Council of Rancho Santa Margarita, California, do hereby commend Deputy Joshua Beeney for his display of courage and valor in the face of danger, in saving a human life.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2006