

**LAKEPORT FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**
Serving the Community since 1894



NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release

Firefighter and Rookie of the year

Location: Lakeport, CA, 1/8/2009: Votes have been tallied and the results are in for this year's firefighter and rookie of the year. Selection for both awards are done by their peers and reviewed by the Lakeport Volunteer Firefighter Association. Nominees for firefighter of the year are chosen for their exemplary dedication and performance for the previous year. Rookie of the year is given to volunteers with less than 3 years experience who have quickly become an invaluable asset to the department.

For 2009, Firefighter Brian Hirscher has been awarded the Firefighter of the Year award. Brian has been, and continues to be, one of the most active volunteers with the Lakeport Fire Protection District. Since beginning with the department 2 years ago, he has been instrumental with many technology-related projects such as an online scanner added to the Lakeport Fire website. His positive attitude and compassion for helping others makes him a role model for all members of the department.

Firefighter Andrew Bergem has been awarded the prestigious rookie of the year award. His unrelenting dedication to serving the department and community has raised the bar. Andrew has spent countless hours seeking ways to streamline emergency response operations, and has been a driving force with training and educating other members. A recent graduate of the California Regional Fire Academy, Andrew is following in the footsteps of his father, Lakeport Fire Captain Rick Bergem.

Awards were presented at the annual Christmas dinner. Both received letters of appreciation and will have their names engraved on a traditional plaque at the main station.

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*All Lakeport Fire Protection District Public Service Announcements are available online at
www.lakeportfire.com*

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