

# **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY on Mar 9<sup>th</sup> 2015**

## **from BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE DISTRICT**

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

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### **RESCUERS TO RECEIVE PHOENIX AWARDS on Mar 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Bonita Springs' rescuers will be recognized on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Fire Station Four, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive, with the District's most prestigious honor – The Phoenix Award.

First responders will be honored for saving the life of a 68 year-old man who suffered a cardiac arrest on January 8, 2015. Firefighters on Rescue 21 and Engine 21 arrived on scene to find the patient lying on the sidewalk unresponsive, upon arrival bystander CPR was in progress. The heart monitor was attached and the patient was in a ventricular fibrillation (V-Fib), a heart rhythm that occurs when the heart beats with rapid, erratic electrical pulses. This rhythm called for the patient to be shocked. After the shock, the patient showed a rapid pulse. The EZ-IO device was placed in the left lower leg; this is a process where the first responder drills into the patient's shin bone in order to administer medications. Amiodarone, a medication administered to keep the heart beating normally was given and patient was prepared for transport to the hospital. Firefighter/Paramedic Nicholas Araica rode into the hospital to continue care while en route.

The Phoenix Award will be given to: Lieutenant/Paramedic James Lamb and Firefighter/Paramedic Roy Brown from Rescue 21; Lieutenant/Paramedic Eric Madden, Firefighter/Paramedic Nicholas Araica, Firefighter/Paramedic Zachary Lindgren, Firefighter/EMT Alex Wright from Engine 21; and Medics Michele Gilyard and Kendrick Jackson from Lee County EMS.

The Bonita Springs Fire District extended a heartfelt invitation for the award presentation to the crew, the patient and the bystander with the hope of reuniting everyone again. **The patient and bystander who administered CPR have confirmed that they will be in attendance for this ceremony.**

In order to recognize the dedication and skill of emergency responders, Bonita Springs Fire Rescue adopted the Phoenix Award after implementing advanced life support services in March of 1999. The Phoenix is recognized as a symbol of excellence and also a mythical bird, said to rise again from its ashes.

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