ARCATA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
631 NINTH STREET, ARCATA, CA 95521-6204
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARCATA FIRE RECOGNIZES PERSONNEL AT AWARDS DINNER

ARCATA, CA- (April 12, 2014) – Arcata Fire personnel with their families and guests attended the 75th annual awards dinner last night in Arcata at the D Street Community Center. Included in the event was recognition of new personnel as well as awards for the Rookie of the Year, Career Firefighter of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Fire Officer of the Year.

Firefighter Neal Narayan, a career employee with the District, received the Rookie of the Year award in recognition of his outstanding attitude, work ethic, teamwork, and his work on the District website, Facebook page, department videos, and public service announcements. Firefighter Scott Gordinier received the Career Employee of the Year award. Gordinier was recognized in 2011 as the Rookie of the Year and was selected by the committee for his great attitude, ability to get along with everyone and his willingness to work on additional projects and teach with the Fire Academy.

Assistant Chief Justin McDonald received the Fire Officer of the Year award for his outstanding work as Interim Fire Chief and his ability as the Operations Officer. He is known for his skill at running emergency incidents and is instrumental in maintaining the records management system and a variety of other complex systems and projects.

Captain Alan Davis became the 75th recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award. Beginning in 1939 (and first awarded to Jack Hamilton), the award is given to the Volunteer firefighter who provides leadership, skill, and ongoing positive support to the organization. Davis is Volunteer Secretary/Treasurer and has been instrumental in coordinating the North Bay Fire Academy.

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According to Fire Chief Desmond Cowan, "These four individuals exemplify the best of the fire service. They represent the Volunteer Association, IAFF Local 4981, and Senior Management, and they all work toward the common goal of providing emergency services to the communities of the Fire District. I am extremely proud of them and of the positive changes our group continues to make."

The Arcata Fire District provides service to over 36,000 residents in a 62 square mile area that includes McKinleyville, Manila, Arcata, and surrounding areas.

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For more information about the Arcata Fire Protection District visit www.arcatafire.org or follow us on www.Facebook.com/ArcataFire