

**For Immediate Release**

**Tuesday, September 8, 2015**

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**ARIZONA FIRE SERVICE NEWS:**

***The 22<sup>ND</sup> Annual United Fire  
Firefighter of the Year Award***

For over two decades United Fire has recognized individuals who exemplify what it means to be a real hero. In crisis situations, when others can't see clearly through the smoke, only focused and experienced fire fighters can respond to danger, protect property, and save lives.

You are cordially invited to attend the opening ceremonies of the **Arizona State Fire School** to learn more about **Captain Dustin Chambliss**, the **2015 Firefighter of the Year** for the State of Arizona.

**Date: Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Time: Welcome, 9:00 AM**

**Closing Remarks, 11:30 AM**

**Place: Mesa Convention Center**

**Centennial Hall**

**263 N. Center Street**

**Agenda:**

- Presentation of Colors
- Firefighter Memorial Service
- Arizona Fire Service Hall of Fame Induction
- **Feature Presentation:** United Fire Firefighter of the Year Award

**Please plan on attending!**

**Take the opportunity to interview the  
2015 Firefighter of the Year after the ceremony.**

In the early morning hours of March 20, 2015 on a deserted rural road, Captain Dustin Chambliss of the Blue Ridge Fire Department was in the back of an ambulance caring for a cardiac patient. Observing a change in condition, Chambliss asked his firefighter partner to pull over so he could reassess the patient. When the driver exited the vehicle it kept moving, knocking the firefighter off balance and running her over. Chambliss reacted quickly and somehow made his way out the side door and into the passenger compartment and brought the vehicle to a stop only seconds and 10 feet from going down a 30-foot embankment.

About 20 minutes later, additional resources arrived. Captain Chambliss, while visibly shaken, was in complete control of both ALS patients. Chambliss demonstrated a professionalism and dedication that went well beyond the call of duty. His quick thinking and experienced actions were without a doubt heroic in nature and most likely saved the lives of his partner, patient, and himself. Dustin Chambliss's exemplary valor and gallantry made him an ideal selection as the 2015 United Fire Firefighter of the Year.

**LET YOUR VIEWERS KNOW: "ANYONE can make a nomination – if you or a loved one have been rescued by a firefighter hero, go to [FDAZ.ORG](http://FDAZ.ORG) to find out how you can make a nomination."**

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