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Contact: Erin Friel, 307-433-8078

### **State Fire Marshals Recognize Safety Achievements and Excellence**

Cheyenne, WY – The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) announced the presentation of an award during the NASFM 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference in Redmond, Washington, June 19-21.

#### **Olin Greene Outstanding Fire Prevention Service Award**

The Olin Greene Outstanding Fire Prevention Service Award is a lifetime achievement award that was established by NASFM in 2008. It is awarded to those who have dedicated their career to fire prevention and public safety, and have achieved substantial accomplishments. The first recipient of this award was Olin Greene, one of NASFM's founders and a former U.S. Fire Administrator. NASFM presented the 2009 Greene Award to **John G. Reich, South Carolina State Fire Marshal**.

Marshal Reich began his 30-year career with the City of Columbia (South Carolina) Fire Department in 1974. He advanced to the position of Assistant Chief in 1991 and served as the city's Fire Marshal. In his job, he planned, organized and directed fire education, code enforcement and fire investigation. He received specialized training in more than 100 schools, including arson, bomb, terrorism, code enforcement, fire prevention and public fire education.

In March 2004, Marshal Reich became Deputy Director for the South Carolina Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation, where his responsibilities include the Office of State Fire Marshal and the South Carolina Fire Academy. As South Carolina State Fire Marshal, he has worked collaboratively to develop a Strategic Plan for the Fire Service in South Carolina; developed and institutionalized the "Spray it Forward" program, which assists firefighters in the consistent delivery of age-appropriate educational messages throughout the state; partnered with EdVenture Children's Museum to house Dalmatian Station, where over 250,000 children annually learn about fire and life safety through play; hosted the state's first residential sprinkler summit; and coordinated key safety-related legislative issues within South Carolina, including the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act, Fire Safe Cigarette legislation and the Volunteer Strategic Assistance Equipment Fire Act. He is pursuing a ban on novelty toylike lighters.

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Marshal Reich's aggressive efforts have contributed to the lowest number of annual fire fatalities ever recorded in South Carolina, with 60 fire-related deaths reported in 2008.

He has held leadership positions in a number of state and local fire service organizations, is a member of the International Code Council and National Fire Protection Association, and serves as co-chair of the NASFM Public Education Committee.

"John Reich's passionate approach to protecting the people of South Carolina from fire is demonstrated daily," said NASFM President Shuman. "His career-long efforts in fire prevention have undoubtedly made South Carolina a safer place to live, work and play."

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