



## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

### ELSMERE FIRE DISTRICT TOWN OF BETHLEHEM – ELSMERE, NEW YORK

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## 2019 Chief Kevin M. Shea Annual Participation Award

This award was created in honor of Chief Shea who suffered a Line of Duty Death on the afternoon of January 24, 2004 while serving as Chief of Department.

It is awarded annually to a Firefighter who shows true ***Dedication*** and sets an example of ***Volunteer Service*** to the Elsmere Fire Company. The recipient shall show a high level of attendance responding to emergency incidents, participating in weekly department drills, company meetings, special details, and attending outside training courses.

We are very proud of the Elsmere Firefighters that have been honored in memory of Chief Shea since 2005.

This year we want to recognize a member who comes from the ranks of our explorer program. Joined our agency on September 29, 2016. Completed his Initial Training Program requirements and probationary period on October 26, 2017. Graduated from New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control Firefighter I Course on May 30, 2018.

I would like to recognize Firefighter Thomas Curiale as our 2019 Chief Kevin M. Shea Annual Participation Award recipient and being an excellent ambassador for the Elsmere Fire Department and Company.

During 2018 Tom responded to 143 of 398 total incidents, which is 36% of our total number of incidents. In addition to his incident response record, he exceeded his drill requirements, Attended 3 outside training courses, plus meetings, fund raising activities, fire prevention details, and other miscellaneous activities during 2018.

Tom was one of the 10 top responders to emergency incidents over the past year despite spending his first Semester at Paul Smith's College in Paul Smiths, NY. Furthermore, Tom finds time to volunteer with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation focusing on environmental education programs.

While in the north country Tom has offered his services to Paul Smiths-Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department which covers the Town of Brighton and Santa Clara. He has been very active with the department, both with responding to emergency incidents as well as with weekly radio checks and social events, such as Pancake Breakfast Fundraisers. He continues to train on a regular basis with Smiths-Gabriels VFD as well as participating in regional training classes such as Responding to Chemical Suicides and The Art of Reading Smoke.

Congratulations Tom! Well-deserved recognition for your participation here in the Town of Bethlehem as well as in Upstate New York!