

Firefighter Award of Excellence
Heavy Rescue Specialist Jonathan Van Huss of Station 117
Presented by Council Member Curt Cochran

Firefighter Van Huss was hired in March of 2009 and transferred into Taylorsville with the Heavy Rescue Team after completion of the new station in July of 2017. Prior to coming to Unified Fire, HR Specialist Van Huss brought a wealth of experience, to include service from 2001-2004 as a firefighter at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, and from 2005-2009 as a firefighter at the Tooele Army Depot.

Johnathan has worked for several years in the Heavy Rescue Program and is highly regarded as an expert in the field. In addition to his skillset as a technician, he has also established a long-term budget for the program and a tracking system for the equipment. This allows for planning of purchases that would have the least overall financial impact to the agency. Due to his conscious nature, he also takes lead on necessary repairs and preventative maintenance to the tools and apparatus.

District Chief Scott McBride stated, "His dedication to his job and craft are second to none. He is a wonderful employee and great asset to Taylorsville City."

His Captain, Ken Aldridge, said, "Jonathan is the Swiss Army Knife of the Heavy Rescue guys. He is constantly working on some new project, fixing damaged equipment (that everyone else believed was non-salvageable) instead of scrapping and replacing. He is also coming up with new ideas for tools the program can use, and the researching, developing and building them himself. Few people in the organization have the skillset Jon has, and even fewer have the drive. He is truly a do-it-all kind of guy."

For his 10 years of dedication and expertise, we are pleased to present Heavy Rescue Specialist Jonathan Van Huss with the Firefighter of Excellence Award.

