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Fanwood CERT to deliver President's Volunteer Service Award *Prestigious Award Honors Outstanding Commitment to Volunteer Service*

Fanwood, NJ – The Fanwood Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) today announced it has teamed with the White House to become a Certifying Organization for the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service. Established in 2003, the AWARD was created by President George W. Bush to give Presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed over 12-months.

The Fanwood CERT is one of thousands of organizations that have joined forces to deliver the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD and honor the volunteers who strengthen our Nation. As a Certifying Organization for the AWARD, the Fanwood CERT is responsible for verifying service hours, nominating potential recipients and delivering the AWARD.

“We are extremely proud to recognize our most outstanding volunteers with the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD,” said Lt. Richard Trigo of the Fanwood Police Department. “Fanwood's CERT volunteers are role models in our community, donating their time, energy and talent to bring us closer together as neighbors and a Nation. The AWARD is our way of thanking these volunteers and inspiring everyone in our community to make volunteering a central part of their lives.”

“Even if you've never volunteered before, the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD is within your reach,” Lt. Trigo said. “There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. We encourage everyone to get involved and to bring along your family, friends and neighbors. Together, we can strengthen America – one hour at a time.”

The AWARD is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group convened by President George W. Bush to help foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and civic participation among

Americans. Chaired by two-time Super Bowl Champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs, the Council is composed of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofit and volunteer service organizations and community volunteering.

Fanwood's CERT was established in 2005 as part of Fanwood's Office of Emergency Management, to educate the public and assist the police, fire, and rescue squad responders with additional support during major emergencies and events.

The Fanwood CERT's web site - www.FanwoodCERT.org - has more details on what they do for the community; and has information you can use to prepare your family for disasters and other emergencies. For more information about volunteering with the Fanwood CERT, please go to their web site or call Lt. Richard Trigo at (908) 322-5000. For more information on the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD and to find out how to identify additional volunteer opportunities in this area, visit www.presidentialserviceawards.gov or call 1-866-545-5307.

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