

Melbourne Fire Department Receives National Uniform Award

Melbourne, Fla., Apr. 5, 2018 — The Melbourne Fire Department's Honor Guard has received national recognition for its new uniform design from the North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers & Distributors (NAUMD). The honor guard uniforms won first place in the "First Responders, Medium Department" category in NAUMD's annual Best Dressed Public Safety Competition.

"Uniforms have a powerful impact on how employees are perceived, and this is particularly true in law enforcement and public safety," said Steve Zalkin, NAUMD president. "This year's winners have worked hard to ensure they have the best uniforms to meet their specific needs, and we're proud to recognize their achievements."

The Melbourne Fire Department Honor Guard performs important community service duties and participates in multiple events each year, including funerals for firefighters, memorial services, graduations, parades, dedications, and national and state memorial ceremonies.

Training Division Chief Sam Byrd, Lt. Andrew Colbert, Lt. Nikolai Pippa, Lt. John Hartley, Lt. Philip Leitz, Driver-Engineer Ryan Young, Firefighter Joseph Lucarotti, Firefighter Todd Olsen and Firefighter Cameron Canales are currently serving on the Honor Guard. They worked together to make updates and improvements to the Honor Guard uniforms. The city's uniform vendor, Red the Uniform Tailor, was impressed with the changes and entered the design into the competition.

The awards were presented on March 27 at NAUMD's annual convention in St. Louis, MO. Lt. John Hartley attended the awards ceremony and accepted the award on behalf of the Melbourne Fire Department.

For more information about the NAUMD Best Dressed Public Safety Competition, and to view all of the 2018 winners, visit the [NAUMD website](#) or e-mail Steve Zalkin, steve@naumd.com.