

**Palm Beach County Fire Rescue**  
**Inter – Office Communication**

To: Michael Arena, Battalion Chief  
From: Ken Sehres, District Chief  
Reference: Wellington Top Firefighter of 2014  
Date: June 5, 2014

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I nominate Captain Chris Yurick. My reason is simple; give recognition to the firefighter who fills the shoes of other firefighters in their absence. Captain Yurick maintains the seamless continuity of each and every station in Wellington to which he is assigned. At our department he is known as a floating officer; one who is assigned to different stations each shift according to the department's staffing needs. Each and every shift he has to check the roster and be prepared to bag up his bunker gear, check that there are sufficient clean uniforms in the trunk of his car, and adapt to the unique personnel dynamics inherent to each station. You may think of him as the substitute teacher but unlike the oft propagated stereotype of babysitting, Captain Yurick is highly regarded by his subordinates and superiors for assuring the integrity of the fire station. He faces the ongoing challenge of being the "other guy" with character and vigor that has earned him respect and support.

Captain Yurick shows a special enthusiasm for the job by embodying the true role of a player and coach. He leads crews through his own actions whether it be the mundane routine of daily station life, the application of training exercises, or the excitement of an emergency response. He has dedicated himself to knowing his job today and tomorrow by continuing his education and expanding his certifications. And because of his assignment as a "floater" all 4 of our Wellington stations benefit from his leadership.

Captain Yurick is a 30 year resident of Wellington who is married to Melissa and father to Brandon and Samantha. Samantha attends Wellington Landings Middle School and outside of school enjoys competitive dancing. Brandon attends Wellington High School where he is enrolled in the new Fire Science Academy. He is also a member of fire rescue's Explorer program where his dad serves as an Advisor. Many Wellington residents know Captain Yurick from his involvement in youth sports and the boy scouts.

He is a Wellington resident who serves his neighbors and visitors in a way that makes all of us proud.

*Ken Sehres*

**District Chief Ken Sehres**

**Palm Beach County Fire Rescue**

**Battalion 2 \* Station 28 \* A-Shift**

**(561) 308-4112**