PAULDING COUNTY

Paulding County Fire & Rescue Contact:

Steve Mapes, Lieutenant Public Information Officer 678-383-3416 steve.mapes@paulding.gov

Lieutenant Mark Morgan Recognized by Rotary Club

Dallas, Georgia – June 13th, 2017 – The Paulding County Rotary club has honored Lieutenant Mark Morgan with its *annual "Service Above-Self Award"*.

Lieutenant Morgan has resided in Paulding County for over twenty five years and began as a volunteer firefighter in 1995. During his tenure as a volunteer he devoted many selfless hours serving the community, and he was hired as one of Paulding County's first paid firefighters in October 1997.

Early in his career Lieutenant Morgan helped create a County-wide Volunteer Firefighter Certification program. At that time PCFD had aspirations to become an all-paid career organization, but it was clear such a transformation would take many years. It was crucial to continue training and developing a cadre of volunteer firefighters who would supplement the career firefighters for at least another decade.

The four month-long Volunteer program met twice a week and was taught by paid personnel while they were on-duty at their assigned stations. Although volunteer firefighters were phased out several years ago that program's legacy lives on today as many of its graduates are now leaders within PCFD and at other large fire departments around the metro Atlanta area.

According to Battalion Chief John Parker, "Lieutenant Morgan will soon celebrate his 20th anniversary as a paid Paulding County Firefighter/EMT this October. Despite his long tenure on the job he strives every day to reach new goals in this ever-changing profession. He appreciates the history of the fire service and takes pride in where our department has come from and also where we are headed in the future. He is a very professional & knowledgeable leader."

About the Paulding County Rotary Club: Paulding Rotary Club is a positive and active force for our local community. For almost 50 years, our club has been in operation, serving this community. During that time we have raised over one million dollars, which has returned to this community through contributions and funding local nonprofit groups providing for needs here inside Paulding County. As a part of the Rotary international, we are committed to, and support the many projects of the Rotary throughout the world. Our club is a member of District 6900 of the Rotary International and was chartered on March 13, 1969.