



Contact
Mark Hanna
(512) 326-7616

For Immediate Release
March 27, 2015

ATAC Honors Texas Fire Investigators

A Texas Advisory Council on Arson (ATAC) honored two Texas fire investigators last night for their years of service and accomplishments. The two honored were Azle Fire Marshal Kenneth Wilson and Lt. Lorenzo Chavez, a fire investigator with the Irving Fire Department.

Wilson received ATAC's Fire Service Special Award for his expertise in fire training in Tarrant County. Wilson serves on the training committees of both the Tarrant County Fire and Arson Investigators Arson Task Force and the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI).

Chavez received ATAC's Law Enforcement Special Award for his work in Dallas County. Chavez is in charge of all follow-up investigations needed to successfully file any arson cases in Irving. He has recently closed two felony cases and has eight more waiting to be heard. The Dallas County District Attorney's Office has requested Chavez to create and present a training class on how to file an arson case to other agencies in Dallas County.

Both fire investigators were honored last night at the 60th Annual Texas International Association of Arson Investigators (TXIAAI) banquet held in Austin.

ATAC was formed by firefighters, law enforcement officials and insurance special investigators who were concerned about the state's arson problem. ATAC's goal is to pool the knowledge and special interests of concerned individuals to address intentionally set fires.

The Arson Hotline is funded by A Texas Advisory Council on Arson (ATAC), whose members include fire, police, industrial and insurance representatives. The Arson Hotline is answered seven days a week, 24-hours a day and every caller remains anonymous. Calls that lead to legitimate arrests may result in a reward. The Arson Hotline number is 1-877-4-FIRE-45 (1-877-434-7345).

The Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) provides the administrative support in keeping ATAC operational on a daily basis. ICT staff members also publish and distribute the ATAC newsletter and work closely with the State Fire Marshal's Office in responding to calls from the Arson Hotline.



###