

THOMAS YATABE AWARDS LEPC DISTRICT 8 - 2012

The Thomas Yatabe Award signifies outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act through achievement(s), accomplishment(s) or superior participation in hazardous materials planning or response. Annually, the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) awards one individual, agency and/or organization the Thomas Yatabe Award for each LEPC District within the State. The SERC issues "Certificates of Appreciation" for other worthy nominations received.

THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2012 THOMAS YATABE AWARDS FOR LEPC DISTRICT 8 WERE:

Thomas Yatabe Award Winner - Steven Metzler, Transportation Security Administration

Nomination read as follows:

Mr. Steven Metzler graciously allowed LEPC staff, Hillsborough County Emergency Management, Tampa Fire Rescue and others to participate in and modify an exercise scheduled for the City of Sarasota Police/Bomb Team (SABT) on May 25, 2012. The scenario was initially designed solely to test and assess SABT's response capabilities to the placement of a simulated Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on top of a pipeline transporting an extremely hazardous substance to a storage tank at a Port of Tampa facility. Mr. Metzler enthusiastically supported the alteration of the exercise scenario to incorporate and warrant a hazardous materials response component, a prerequisite for accreditation as the LEPC's biennial exercise requirement. The additional element was added to the scenario to assess the hazmat team's response capabilities and actions which would have transpired in the event that a rupture of the pipeline was sustained while removing the staged IED and resulted in a release of an extremely hazardous substance.

The SABT was one of eight local bomb teams that were trained and exercised during the week of May 22-25, 2012 in preparation for the Republican National Convention hosted in the City of Tampa during late August 2012.



Presenting the Award was SERC Member Nancy Stephens (Left). Accepting on behalf of Mr. Metzler were the LEPC 8 Chair (Scott Ehlers/Center) & LEPC 8 Staff (John Meyer/Right).



File Photo: Mr. Steven Metzler

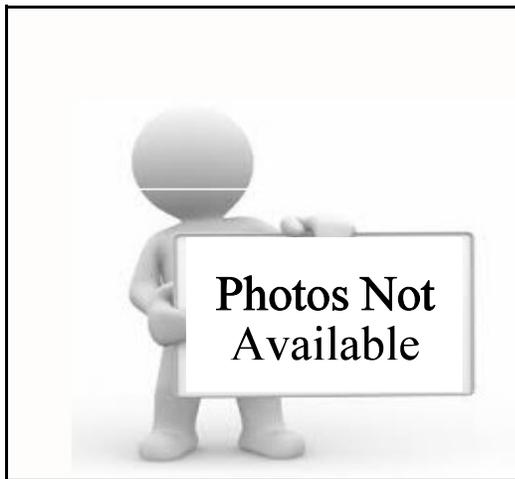
**Paul McMann, Thomas Yatabe “Certificate of Appreciation” Recipient
Paul Duquette, Thomas Yatabe “Certificate of Appreciation” Recipient**

Both of these gentlemen were managers of the FDOT District 7 Maintenance Yard/Warehouse in Clearwater when the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebooks were delivered in June 2012. Although Mr. Duquette subsequently retired, each was presented their own *Certificate of Appreciation* as a token of gratitude from the LEPC.

Nomination read as follows:

“In conjunction with [Mr. Paul Duquette/Mr. Paul McMann], [Mr. Paul McMann/Mr. Paul Duquette] graciously accepted and facilitated the distribution of 17,600 copies (440 boxes) of the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebooks (ERGs) destined for the four County Emergency Management departments comprising the Tampa Bay LEPC District, as well as the LEPC itself.

In fact, [Mr. Paul McMann/Mr. Paul Duquette] had agreed to accept additional allocations of ERGs intended for the Southwest, Central Florida & Withlacoochee LEPC Districts on a temporary basis but this did not come to fruition due to a communication error by the shipper.



Updated and published every four years by the U.S. Department of Transportation/Pipeline and Hazardous Safety Administration and its partners, the ERGs provide first responders with a “go-to” manual to help deal with hazmat accidents during the critical first 30 minutes. The ERG primarily applies to hazardous materials transported by highway and railway, but would also apply to materials transported by air or waterway.”