

May 19, 2010

OUTSTANDING FRAUD FIGHTERS RECEIVE AWARDS IN VIRGINIA

RICHMOND, Va. – The Virginia State Police (VSP) Insurance Fraud Program (IFP) recognized eight Virginia “Fraud Fighters” during the recent Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigation Units (VA IASIU) Annual Fraud Seminar held in Richmond. The Fraud Fighters Award, established in 2005 by the IFP, recognizes those individuals who demonstrate their willingness to go the extra mile fighting fraud in the commonwealth.

Nominees represented the categories of law enforcement, commonwealth’s attorneys and the insurance industry. The awards were based on the nominees’ contributions to Virginia’s anti-insurance fraud efforts, which include their involvement and contribution to investigations; prevention and pro-active activities; enforcement; interaction with the insurance community; and financial impact by recoveries and restitution resulting from their fraud-fighting efforts. The recipients of the 2010 Fraud Fighters Award are:

- **Carla Keesee**, Investigations Supervisor with Virginia Farm Bureau, Investigator **Todd Maxey** with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office and Franklin County Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney **Tim Allen** for a case involving a stolen 4-wheeler in Franklin County;
- Virginia State Police Senior Special Agent **Dennis Dodson** for his role in removing one of the insurance industry’s most egregious abusers who is currently in jail awaiting sentencing;
- **Michael Hardiman**, Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney in Stafford County’ for his tireless efforts in the fight against insurance fraud;
- **Stephanie Vipperman**, Patrick County’s Commonwealth’s Attorney, for reducing staged crashes in Patrick County;
- and Investigator **Stephen Slozak** from the Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office and **Lisa Champ**, who also accepted a posthumous award for her husband, **Fred Champ**, senior investigator with Virginia Farm Bureau for their investigative work of an arson in Gloucester County.



L to R: Clifford Hapgood, Franklin County Commonwealth’s Attorney, accepting for Todd Maxey, Franklin County Sheriff’s Office; Dennis Dodson, Virginia State Police Special Agent; Tim Allen, Franklin County Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney; Lisa Champ; Stephanie Vipperman, Patrick County Commonwealth’s Attorney; Investigator Carla Keesee ,Virginia Farm Bureau; Michael Hardiman, Stafford County Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney; Investigator Stephen Slovak, Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office

The Insurance Fraud Program of the Virginia State Police was established January 1, 1999, through legislation approved by the General Assembly. The program’s mission is to address the growing crime of insurance fraud in Virginia by conducting thorough professional insurance fraud investigations; by providing insurance fraud training for law enforcement personnel; and by increasing citizen awareness and cooperation through educational and rewards programs.