

Oak Lawn firefighter gets award from State VFW



Engineer Michael Keane, of the Oak Lawn Fire Department, again was recognized for heroism, this time by the Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars, according to a press release from the fire department.

At the May 20 Oak Lawn Lions Club's Law and Order Night, Keane was selected by his peers to receive the Firefighter of the Year award for his performance of duty at an apartment fire in the 9700 block of Karlov Avenue on April 26 — as well as at several other fires over the previous months — the release said.

Keane rescued a man from his burning apartment, according to the release. The man suffered from first- and second-degree burns and smoke inhalation and was treated and released after a short stay in the hospital, the release said.

The events of the early morning fire on April 26 were submitted to the Illinois VFW for Keane's nomination as the state's VFW Firefighter of the Year. Keane received the award June 14 at the annual VFW conference in Springfield, the release said.