



NEWS RELEASE

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May 7, 2007

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VOLUNTEER FLORIDA HONORS ORLANDO RESIDENT WITH PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD

*Prestigious National Honor for Volunteer Service to be presented at
The Orange County Commission meeting. ...*

ORLANDO – The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, **Volunteer Florida**, today announced it will award a local volunteer with the PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD, the highest national honor offered in recognition of volunteer service and a part of the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD program. To qualify for the PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD, volunteers must have logged a minimum of **4,000 volunteer hours** over the course of their lifetimes.

The AWARD will be presented at the Orange County Commission meeting, to be held Tuesday, May 8 on the first floor of the Orange County Administration Building, located at 201 South Rosalind Avenue. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. Eastern Time, and the AWARD ceremony is the first agenda item.

The outstanding volunteer who will receive this award is Jerome "Jerry" Hipscher of Orlando. Hipscher's volunteer service has ranged from environmental consulting with the New York State Legislature to serving on the Orange County Community Grants Advisory Board.

The PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD is an award for volunteer service that every American – from every age and every walk of life – can aspire to achieve. To be eligible to receive the AWARD, individuals, families and groups submit a record of their annual volunteer service hours to participating organizations, such as **Volunteer Florida**, that will verify the service and deliver the AWARD. AWARD eligibility for individuals and groups is based upon hour requirements varying by age.

(more)



“Recipients of the PRESIDENT’S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD are role models for all Americans,” said Volunteer Florida CEO Wendy Spencer. “Each volunteer hour contributed makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. Through his extraordinary commitment, Jerry Hipscher has brought us closer together as families, as communities and as a Nation.”

Established in 2003, the PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD – which is modeled after the President’s Physical Fitness Award – is available on an annual basis to individuals, groups and families who have met or exceeded requirements for volunteer service and have demonstrated exemplary citizenship through volunteering. As a Leadership Organization participating in the AWARD program, **Volunteer Florida** confers the AWARDS to recognize the outstanding achievements of volunteers throughout Florida.

The AWARD is issued by the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group created to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making to our nation. The Council is comprised of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofits, and the volunteer sector. Volunteer Florida CEO Wendy Spencer, who is an appointee to the Council, will present the award on behalf of the Council.

For more information on volunteering in Florida, please visit www.volunteerflorida.org.

For more information about how to qualify for the PRESIDENT’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, please visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov or call 1-866-545-5307.

The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Volunteer Florida) was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Commission grants funds to Florida AmeriCorps and National Service programs; encourages volunteerism for everyone from youth to seniors to people with disabilities; promotes volunteerism for disaster preparedness and response; and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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