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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Tobia

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BRONZE STAR AWARDED TO FF/PM MATTHEW MILLER U.S. ARMY SSGT

Millersville, MD... Fire Chief David L. Stokes and The Anne Arundel County Fire Department are honored to announce that Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Miller has been awarded a Bronze Star for Valor. FF/PM Miller is a Staff Sergeant with the Maryland National Guard and has recently returned from his second deployment to Iraq. Miller, a nine year veteran of the department, is one of 12 members (career and volunteer) who are currently deployed as part of a military commitment. Text of the circumstances surrounding FF Miller's actions is provided below. This is Miller's second Bronze Star in combat operations.

NARRATIVE TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR VALOR TO STAFF SERGEANT MATTHEW J. MILLER

“Staff Sergeant Matthew J. Miller, United States Army, distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious achievement to the United States as a Medic in HHC, 1-175th IN during operations on MSR Tampa, Iraq, on 7 September, 2007 during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 07-09. Utilizing open, flat terrain afforded by the MSR Tampa Tigris River Bridge Crossing and sunny, hot, and clear weather, insurgents took up a sniper position in a built-up area north of the route. Concealment was enhanced by foliage on the northern and southern side of the route. Desperate to draw coalition forces into an ambush, insurgents shot a young girl in the neck. Moving west on MSR Tampa, SSG Miller's convoy crossed the bridge, noticing a man in the back of an Iraqi Army vehicle covered in blood. With approval from the convoy commander, SSG Miller dismounted and rushed to the truck to render aid. Arriving at the vehicle, SSG Miller was witness to a chaotic scene, a little girl covered in blood, accompanied by her hysterical family. SSG Miller immediately began treating the girl's massive hemorrhage. As SSG Miller treated the girl in the bed of the truck, a sniper, approximately 100 meters north, opened fire on SSG Miller injuring an Iraqi Soldier inches away, who was trying to assist. Undaunted, SSG Miller continued to treat the girl and the wounded Iraqi as coalition forces took small arms fire. With bleeding controlled, SSG Miller moved both casualties to cover. SSG Miller continued to treat both casualties until local evacuation assets arrived. SSG Miller's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect distinct credit upon himself, the 3rd Sustainment Brigade, the 316th (Expeditionary) Sustainment Command, and the United States Army.”

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