



**City of Coral Gables  
COMMISSION MEETING  
April 29, 2008**

**ITEM TITLE:**

Presentation of 25 years service pin to James Gossett, Fire Department

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

In August 1981, James began his career with the City as a Firefighter. After extensive study, he was promoted to Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician in September 1982, and later accepted the challenges and demanding responsibilities of Driver/Engineer in February 1985. Over the years James has held office on the executive boards of both the Firefighters Union and the Benevolent Association. In fact, for the past ten years, James has diligently served as President of the Coral Gables Firefighters Benevolent Association.

James is a great asset to the Fire Department and an excellent driver. He continues to motivate and inspire new drivers of the future. He always accomplishes more than what is expected and his productivity levels are great examples. James supplies a high quality of work as well as high volume and is constantly referred to as an example when supervisors need to establish the high end of the bar for what is desired of a Driver and Firefighter. It is naturally understood that he is a consummate team player and is known for his efforts to keep the team together and productive. James is a self starter, resourceful and knows what it takes to get the job done. He meticulously maintains the vehicle logs as well as follow-up documentation on vehicle damage, maintenance, and safety issues.

In addition to these talents, James is a great speaker and represents the Department in a professional manner both on and off the job. His communication skills are most valued and James is routinely called upon to communicate specialty skills and knowledge to the team and public. James' talents with computers and alarms are in depth and appreciated by his team in various aspects of his performance. He takes the initiative when things need to be accomplished and constantly displays excellent decision making in stressful emergency situations. The City greatly appreciates James' dedication and loyalty to a high standard of performance and looks forward to a continued relationship for years to come.