



**City of Coral Gables
COMMISSION MEETING
August 26, 2008**

ITEM TITLE:

Presentation of 25 years service pin to Donald Griffiths, Fire Department

BRIEF HISTORY:

Don began his career with the City in August 1983. Within a short time he had completed the requirements for Driver/Engineer and Paramedic. He was assigned as a Driver in 1985 and then took a position as a paramedic in 1987. In 1992 Don was promoted to Fire Lieutenant. During the following years he either assisted or directed the training for numerous recruit classes. He also authored the Department's Recruit Training Manual, which is still considered today as the "Rookie Bible."

In 1997, with the encouragement of the Department, Don formed the Coral Gables Fire Rescue Explorer Program in conjunction with the Future Medics Club at Coral Gables Senior High School. Understandably, he was recognized with the prestigious award of Firefighter of the Year for 1998.

Don has shown throughout his career that he is willing to take on difficult assignments and that he thrives on challenges. He has mentored many of the department's very best paramedics and has played a significant role in the basic training of nearly a third of the firefighters in the department. Don's loyal and dedicated service is greatly appreciated by the City.