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Contact: Rep. Joel Kitchens

(608) 266-5350

## Rep. Kitchens recognizes local first responder

MADISON, Wis. – Rep. Joel Kitchens, R-Sturgeon Bay, was honored to recognize Al Tlachac as the First Responder of the Year for the 1st Assembly District during Thursday's Assembly floor session.

As a member of the Luxemburg Community Fire Department and Luxemburg Rescue Squad, Al has served his community with selfless dedication for more than 45 years and can always be counted on to help anyone in their times of need.

"I was amazed to learn how far above and beyond Al goes to ensure he is prepared for any scenario that he faces," Rep. Kitchens said. "Al is a regular at monthly meetings and special training events, inspiring others to go the extra mile to protect the Luxemburg area."

An immeasurable number of lives have been influenced by Al's commitment to serve those in his community. Al has responded to more than 10,000 fire and EMS calls in his career, admirably assisting local citizens in times of crisis and distress.

"It is crucial that we commend and thank Al, as well as all of our other first responders, in any way that we can," Rep. Kitchens said. "They risk their lives for us and help us during life's most critical moments."

The Wisconsin State Assembly established a program this year where a first responder in each of the state's 99 Assembly districts is recognized with a First Responder of the Year award. While Rep. Kitchens received a number of worthy nominations from across the 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly District, he decided to select Al because of his longevity and all the impressive things he has been able to accomplish over his long and illustrious career.

"I was truly honored to present Al with this award because I know the impact first responders have on our communities," Rep. Kitchen said. "They are always there in times of peril and put their lives on the line to ensure our safety. Each day we should be grateful for the men and women who continually rise up to keep us and our neighborhoods safe."

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