



City of Cottonwood Fire & Medical Department For Immediate Release

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FIREFIGHTER AJ PURINTON NEWEST CFMD PARAMEDIC

Cottonwood, AZ, September 2, 2016– Cottonwood Firefighter AJ Purinton has completed his Paramedic Academy and has become a nationally-certified Paramedic. He will use his medical assessment and treatment skills while running emergency 911 calls for Cottonwood Fire and Medical Department (CFMD). All CFMD response personnel are certified as either EMTs or Paramedics and AJ will fill an empty Paramedic spot to provide a higher level of emergency medical care.

AJ chose to enroll in a Paramedic course before being hired by the City of Cottonwood, in order to reach a higher level of medical proficiency. His class extended over 50 weeks and included 500 hours in the classroom culminating with the National Paramedic Registry Test. He also spent over 500 hours in the clinical setting, working in multiple medical departments including Emergency Rooms, Operating Rooms, Cardiac Catheterization Labs, Pediatric and Burn Units and the ICU. His certifications after the completion of the class include Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Pre-Hospital Trauma and Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation and Difficult Airway Management in addition to his Paramedic Certification.



AJ was also awarded the Eric Tinkhan Paramedic Achievement Award for outstanding performance and dedication and loyalty to the profession from his instructors at Central Arizona College in Apache Junction.

AJ will join 14 other Paramedics in the Cottonwood Fire and Medical Department, which also has another three EMTs currently enrolled in a Paramedic Academy, scheduled to graduate in December.

Please contact the Cottonwood Fire & Medical Department at 634-2741 if you have any questions.

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