



It is my extreme pleasure to announce the recent National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR) presentation of the prestigious Hal Foss Award to First Lieutenant Coleman Brown, III, of Maryland Wing's Carroll Composite Squadron. The award was presented at the recent NASAR National Conference in Lake Tahoe, NV.

1st Lt. Brown currently serves as Carroll's Emergency Services Officer, as well as a Ground Team Leader, Mission Observer, Incident Commander, and holds various Incident Command Staff ratings. He has also been instrumental in supporting the development of the Wing's robust Emergency Services Program, including recurrent Incident Command Staff Continuing Education and incorporating repeatable search management processes.

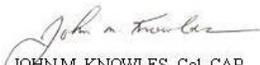
The award was presented at the 2012 NASAR National Conference in recognition of 1st Lt. Brown's dedication and commitment to improve search and rescue management across federal, state and local agencies and organizations. Named for Mr. Hal Foss, the award was established in 1974 to recognize significant contributions to search and rescue at the national level. 1st Lt. Brown was nominated for the award by multiple Maryland state agencies responsible for search and rescue operations, including the State Police, Department of Natural Resources Police and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

He has directly supported emergency services for over 30 years. Since 1980, 1st Lt. Brown has held a variety of volunteer positions in Fire Services, SAR and Emergency Medical Services. In 1989, he earned his B.S. Degree in Emergency Health Services Management from the University of Maryland. In 1995, he began serving as a SAR Coordinator and Primary Search Management Instructor for a number of agencies in Maryland, including the Department of Natural Resources, the State Police and numerous local agencies and SAR organizations. He also serves as a volunteer instructor at the University of Maryland, teaching their Managing Land Search Operations course. Through his involvement in the development of a modern, well-structured SAR program, hundreds of police officers, state troopers and emergency service workers from Maryland and across the nation have been trained in the Management of Search Operations. He raised the bar and awareness both locally and nationally on the proper response to missing persons; this includes bridging the gap between law enforcement and volunteer search groups.

At the National Level, 1st Lt. Brown has served as the Chair of the State Search and Rescue Coordinators Council (SSARCC) and represented the National Association of Search and Rescue for Personal Locator Beacons, including response levels and responder training.

His extraordinary efforts and passion to save lives has had an extremely positive and far reaching affect in this Wing, throughout the State of Maryland, and internationally.

Please join me in thanking Cole for his humanitarian service and congratulating him for the recognition he so richly deserves.


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