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## PRESS RELEASE

Fire Department Welcomes New Firefighter/Paramedics

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Padre Island

September 30, 2011 Carlos Centeno

The City of South Padre Island welcomed six new firefighter paramedics this week in preparation for taking over Emergency Medical Services. The addition in personnel will add two members to each shift which will staff the City's new ambulance.

Over 100 applicants demonstrated interest for the 6 positions and after an extensive hiring process a final selection was made. Applicants had to pass a physical agility test, a written exam and an interview.

"The group we hired showed that they have the mental and physical skills needed to do the job," said Fire Chief, Burney Baskett.

The six newest members of the South Padre Island Fire Department are Michael Applegate, Justin Oakerson, Oscar Garcia Jr., Ricky Mahan, David Anzaldua, and Isaac Saenz Jr.

All six new members have experience in both firefighting and EMS.

"We are very satisfied with the experience and knowledge of the new personnel. We are very happy to welcome them onto our team," said Burney Baskett.

For more information contact Fire Chief, Burney Baskett at (956) 761-3040 or at <a href="mailto:BBaskett@MySPI.org">BBaskett@MySPI.org</a>.