



# CALVIN CALLAHAN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District First Responder of the Year: Dawn Herlache**

[Madison, WI] – During today’s State Assembly floor session, State Representative Calvin Callahan (R-Tomahawk) proudly presented the 2023 “First Responder of the Year” award to Fire Chief Dawn Herlache, who has served with the Townsend Fire Department since 2002.

Chief Herlache has served the town of Townsend with outstanding service and dedication as an integral part of the fire department for over 20 years. Over this time, she has continued her education, earning Inspector and Instructor certifications, and improved her capacity to serve by passing along her knowledge to fellow firefighters. Rural communities in the Northwoods often face unique challenges, but the residents of Townsend can rest assured that Chief Herlache will always put their community first in all that she does.

“Chief Herlache’s dedication to Townsend and the surrounding community speaks volumes about her character, and is emblematic of what makes the Northwoods a great place to live,” said Rep. Callahan. “The strength of our communities comes from the men and women who serve it. Townsend is lucky to have such a dedicated and selfless woman keeping the town safe. I’d like to thank Chief Herlache and all our first responders across the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District for all that they do.”

The “First Responder of the Year” award, created in 2019, recognizes the brave men and women who serve in our emergency services. Nominations are sought from communities around the state and state representatives select one individual from their respective Assembly district who best exemplifies community service, selflessness, and dedication. Recipients this year included police officers, sheriff’s deputies, firefighters, and all levels of EMS personnel.

The State Assembly also [passed a resolution](#) declaring October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as First Responders Appreciation Day.

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*The 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes all of Lincoln and Langlade Counties, as well as portions of Marathon, Oconto, Oneida, and Shawano Counties.*