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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Local Heroes Honored by Douglasville Mayor Pro Tem**

(Douglasville, GA) – On Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Segal presented six employees from Tires Plus, located on Thornton Road, with the newly created Douglasville Medal of Service award. John Haye, Ben Marsh, Justin Roberts, Nathanael Serrant, Tim Smith, and Shane Waddell were each recognized for their heroic action and quick-thinking in response to a nine-vehicle wreck that took place at the corner of Thornton Road and Waterway Circle earlier this month. With flames clearly visible as a result of the wreck, these six men sprang into action. Each rushed onto the scene wielding fire extinguishers to put out the rising flames coming from multiple vehicles, likely preventing fatalities.

“This act of heroism is something I wanted to recognize,” Mayor Pro Tem Segal said, “so I contact our City Manager when I realized we didn’t really have a way for City Councilmembers to acknowledge citizens who go above and beyond the call of duty. As a result, we created something new.” That something new is the aforementioned Douglasville Medal of Service, which the Mayor Pro Tem described as “an award that can be given by the Mayor of Douglasville or City Councilmembers to citizens who have made an outstanding contribution to the City of Douglasville or to humanity through their talents, services, or in any other form.” “That,” Mr. Segal added, “qualifies you all for this new honor.”

Also on hand to present awards to these six heroes was Police Chief Gary Sparks, who awarded them with the Douglasville Police Department Challenge Coin. “This coin can’t get you out of jail,” Chief Sparks quipped, “but it commemorates your actions in going above and beyond to help someone in need.”

The presentation closed with a reiteration of thanks from both the Mayor Pro Tem and Police Chief to both the award recipients and their families.

