

## Stuckemeyer promoted to Lieutenant at Cornbelt Fire Protection District

Robin Stuckemeyer, Willard Airport Crash Rescue Specialist, was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant for the Cornbelt Fire Protection District in Mahomet, Illinois where she has been a volunteer member for the last 10 years.

“This promotion, while accomplishing a long-time personal goal of mine, presents many new challenges in my career as a firefighter,” says Stuckemeyer. “As a Lieutenant I now have many more responsibilities such as overseeing a group of approximately 6 firefighters, leading training, heading committees, being in charge of a crew on calls, and possibly even being in charge until a higher ranking officer arrives.”



Stuckemeyer has been a member of the Willard Airport Airport Rescue and Fighting (ARFF) team since 2015 and a member of the Cornbelt FPD since 2009. She takes her training seriously.

“I have spent many hours training to improve my skills and abilities in hopes of one day earning this promotion,” says Stuckemeyer. “Cornbelt requires a grueling year-long training program for all of its new firefighters that helped establish my skill set. I was an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) when I joined Cornbelt, which prepared me for running medical calls with them. From there, I kept working and training by adding other skills like joining the water rescue team as a diver and a Swift Water Technician. Additionally, I became an Engineer which means

I am certified to drive every truck we have. I look at all of these things as an opportunity to better myself and in turn to be able to provide a better service to my community. The other thing Cornbelt has provided me with through all its training is my job here at Willard Airport, I wouldn't be here without it.”

“We are proud to have Robin as a member of our ARFF team here at Willard Airport,” says airport fire marshal, John Riegel. “The dedication to her academics, training, and growth both here and at Cornbelt FPD is what elevated her to the rank of officer in the fire service.”

Statistically, only seven percent of firefighters are female. The promotion to Lieutenant makes Stuckemeyer the first female to hold this position at Cornbelt. She is also the first female firefighter at Willard Airport.

“I am the first female Lieutenant at Cornbelt and that is something that I am very proud of,” says Stuckemeyer. “I don't want to focus on that. I choose to focus on being the best at my job that I can be because that's what my community, my crew, and Cornbelt need. We provide a service to people that are usually facing the toughest times of their lives and my job is to try and help make it better, man or woman there is no difference in the job.”

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