

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**The White House - USA Freedom Corps**  
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## **Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales to Three outstanding VIPS Volunteers**

The Attorney General of the United States, Alberto R. Gonzales, presented the President's Volunteer Service Award to Tracey Ryan, John Bauer, and Donna Spiewak on Friday, April 20, 2007. All three have been active members of the Fairfax County Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program.

In 2004, Tracey Ryan joined the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) program of the Fairfax County Police Department. She currently serves as director of the Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy, a ten-week program hosted by the police department to educate citizens about local law enforcement. She is also the communications chair of the Citizens' Advisory Committee to the Reston District Police station. In 2006, Ryan co-founded the Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, a nonprofit organization for graduates of the Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy. The association offers its 100 members continuing education and special events. Ms. Ryan currently serves as Treasurer of the association.

John Bauer began to volunteer back in 1953 when he received his Amateur Radio Operators License from the FCC. He served the state of North Carolina by assisting the Southern Railroad with emergency traffic during a rash of snow storms as well as assisting during numerous hurricanes. Bauer started volunteering with the VIPS program in 2003 and has been working in the Crime Prevention Office of the West Springfield District Station of the Fairfax County Police Department and is just two classes away from being certified as a Crime Prevention Specialist. Bauer has also volunteered in many other capacities with the Ground Observer Corps, Civil Air Patrol, Air Force Military Affiliate Radio System, Virginia State Air Force MARS, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, The Red cross and Civil Defense. Mr. Bauer has also ridden his amateur radio equipped motorcycle in communications support for many Multiple Sclerosis Society Charity Bicycle Rides. Bauer retired as an engineer for ABC News in Washington after serving thirty-eight years.

Donna Spiewak, from Falls Church, Virginia, has served the past four years as director of the VIPS program in Fairfax County Police Department. In her capacity as director, she is responsible for the administration of the entire volunteer program, including interviewing new applicants, placement of volunteers, overseeing of volunteers once they are in the program, development training and new projects for the program. Including her service to VIPS, Spiewak has volunteered over 8,000 hours also serving organizations such as the Falls Church Police Department, National Park Services, and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Spiewak has served our country as a federal agent for the Department of Defense, U.S. Department of State, The U.S. Department of Treasury, and in the United State's Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Spiewak has been honored many times by her peers through numerous honors for her outstanding volunteer service.

In his January 2002 State of the Union Address, President Bush called on all Americans to make a difference in their communities through volunteer service. He created USA Freedom

Corps, an Office of the White House, to strengthen and expand volunteer service. Americans are responding to the President's Call to Service. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 61 million Americans volunteered in 2006. Go to [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov) or call 1-877-USA-CORPS to find an existing volunteer service opportunity in your area or to find more information about service programs, including national service programs such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Citizen Corps. USA Freedom Corps is also highlighting youth volunteer service. Visit [www.volunteerkids.gov](http://www.volunteerkids.gov) for games and ideas designed to show how America's youth are making a difference.

The President's Volunteer Service Award was created at the President's direction by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The Award is available to youth ages 14 and under who have completed 50 or more hours of volunteer service; to individuals 15 and older who have completed 100 or more hours; and to families or groups who have completed 200 or more hours. For more information about the Award, please visit [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov).