

The International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) has received notice of the following wildland firefighter fatality.

Our condolences go out to the families and co-workers.

**Name: Elias Jaquez**

Rank: Firefighter

Age: 49

Gender: Male

Status: Volunteer

Years of Service: less than 2 years

Date of Incident: 09 April 2011

Time of Incident: 1700 hours

Date of Death: 20 April 2011

Fire Department: Cactus Volunteer Fire Department

Fire Department Address: 201 Highway 287, Cactus, TX 79013

Fire Department Chief: Raul Cicneros

**Incident Description:** Firefighter Jaquez and three other firefighters were injured eleven days ago when a fire truck from the Dumas (Texas) Fire Department (mostly volunteer) became stuck in sandy rough terrain while suppressing wildland fire in grassland. The Cactus fire crew came up beside the Dumas fire truck to extricate the Dumas crew when the Cactus Volunteer Fire Department truck also became stuck in the sand. The crews were entrapped in the fire and Firefighter Jaquez suffered 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns over 60% of his body and was taken to the University Medical Center, Lubbock Burn Center for treatment where he remained until succumbing to his injuries.

Unofficial news reports indicate that Firefighter Jaquez may have tripped over a down electrical line before being entrapped, and that he had on fire protective pants but not a protective shirt during the incident.

**Incident Location:** Road U, Moore County, TX