# COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

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| Department: | Commissioners | Presenter(s): | Jack Smith |
| Meeting Date: | Thursday, November 18, 2010 | Type of Request: | Presentation/Recognition |

Wording for the Agenda:

Recognition of Eagle Scout Ricardo Antonio Rojas.

Background/History/Details:

On June 8, 2010, Ricardo "Ricky" Antonio Rojas was awarded the rank of "Eagle Scout". The Eagle Scout rank is the highest rank possible in Boy Scouting and is yearned for by many scouts around the nation. Only 4% of all scouts attain this rank.

Although 16 years old, he has already earned 42 merit badges, served in several positions in Troop 172 such as Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, and Chaplain's Aide. Even as a Cub Scout, Ricky demonstrated the ability to excel by earning the Cub Scout's highest rank-- the Arrow of Light. He has also been awarded the "Super Achiever" award for earning all of the Weblo's Scout's activity pins, as well as three religious awards.

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Ricky organized a county-wide food and clothing drive on August 15, 2009 with beneficiaries including the Real Life Center and Fayette Samaritans. He not only met and exceeded goal to collect 10,000 items, but his efforts (along with the efforts of eight other Boy Scouts) helped him raise over $3,700 in donations.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Recognition of Ricardo "Ricky" Antonio Rojas.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

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| Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past? | No | If so, when? | |
| Do you need audio-visual for the presentation? | No | Back-up Material Submitted? | Yes |

## STAFF USE ONLY

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| Approved by Finance | Not Applicable | Reviewed by Legal | |
| Approved by Purchasing | Not Applicable | Approved by County Clerk | Yes |
| Administrator's Approval | Yes | | |

Staff Notes:

# RICARDO ANTONIO ROJAS
# EAGLE SCOUT

Ricardo Antonio Rojas has recently been honored by earning the award of "Eagle Scout" on June 8, 2010. The Eagle Scout rank is the Boy Scout organization's highest award, and is revered by many young men. Many scouts go through the Boy Scout program; however, only four percent of all scouts attain this award.

Ricky, 16, is a Junior at McIntosh High School and will be formally recognized by his Troop later in the year. His scouting career began as a Tiger Cub Scout in First Grade in 2000, and he has been in the scouting ranks ever since. During his tenure as Cub Scout through Weblos Scout, Ricky has earned ranks as a Tiger Cub, Bobcat, Wolf, Weblos I and Weblos II, and Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest rank. He was awarded the "Super Achiever" award for earning all 20 of the Weblo Scout's activity pins. In addition, he earned three religious awards while being a member of Cub Scouts.

To earn the prestigious Eagle Scout rank, a Scout must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, serve in positions of Troop leadership, and complete a major service project. To date, Ricky has earned 42 merit badges; served in several positions of leadership in the Troop, such as Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Quartermaster and Chaplain's Aide. He continues to be a leader and inspiration for the younger scouts in the Troop, and is well respected by his peers in his current role as Troop Guide.

In addition, he has completed the National Youth Leadership Training course, and is a member of the Order of the Arrow, scouting's honor society. He has earned the "Mile Swim" Award; Historic Trails Award, Paul Bunyan Woodsman Award and World Conservation Award. Ricky is a Boy Scout Lifeguard, and since earning these skills, has taken this a step further to become a certified Red Cross Lifeguard. Ricky helps other scouts in his Troop by being the "swim test" guru, and is a great help for them as they prepare for summer camp.

For his Eagle Project, Ricky organized and coordinated a county-wide food and clothing drive on August 15, 2009. The beneficiaries included the Real Life Center and Fayette Samaritans, two non-profit agencies providing relief for the less fortunate families in Fayette County. The collection was held at five Fayette County stores in Fayetteville and Peachtree City. The goal of the drive was to collect over 10,000 items. He achieved his goal, and included in the collection were donations of over $3,700. Ricky's workforce involved eight Boy Scout troops in the county and over 100 volunteers during this one-day event. As a thank you, each volunteer received a unique, one of a kind patch; certificate; bottled water and snack items, and a coupon for a Chick-fil-A sandwich which were graciously donated by Publix Supermarkets, the Chick-fil-A Town Center and Chick-fil-A Dwarf-House Restaurant in Fayetteville. Most importantly, each volunteer earned service hours, and the number of service hours for the project totaled approximately 780 hours. .

Thank you for your acknowledgement, and in wishing Ricky good luck, and bestowing congratulations on his successful Scouting career.

November 18, 2010

Eagle Scout Richardo Antonio Rojas
185 Felton Drive
Fayetteville, Georgia 30214

Dear Mr. Rojas,

As elected officials, we are pleased to learn of your ascension to the honorable rank of Eagle Scout. This accomplishment represents years of energy and effort devoted to learning and serving others. We are certain your family and friends who have helped you and encouraged you over the years are very proud of you–as they should be.

In our world today, it seems increasingly difficult to find young men and women who are eager or willing to work toward achieving a goal, especially one as noble as reaching Eagle Scout status. The principles of character we build as young people remain with us always and are the foundation upon which we build a lifetime of good judgment, decision-making skills, and moral and ethical behavior. Not surprisingly, we often learn that some of our country's finest leaders were involved in Boy Scouts as youngsters. Perhaps the future holds an important leadership role for you as well.

On behalf of the citizens of Fayette County, we extend to you our heartiest congratulations and wish you continued success as you set an example for others. If any member of the Board of Commissioners can ever assist you in any way, I hope you will call on us.

With warmest regards and best wishes, we are

THE FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jack R. Smith, Chairman

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