



FOR MORE MEDIA INFORMATION
TORI ANDREWS
THE ZIMMERMAN AGENCY
(850) 668-2222 • FIREHOUSESUBS@ZIMMERMAN.COM

MORE THAN \$54,000 WORTH OF LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO LEON AND TAYLOR COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$54,428 worth of life-saving equipment grants awarded to three local fire service organizations during a press event at **10:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017** at the Tallahassee Fire Department Training Center located at 2964 Municipal Way, Tallahassee, Fla. 32304.

The event will feature live demonstrations from receiving departments, explaining the importance of the grant award and how it will be used to save lives. Residents and Firehouse Subs guests are invited to join the celebration and see firsthand how their generous contributions have come full circle to provide much needed equipment in their community.

“Having served as a firefighter for more than 25 years, it’s truly amazing to be a part of an organization that gives back to first responders,” said Brady Rigdon, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation procurement specialist. “Thanks to amazing support from Firehouse Subs guests, the Foundation is able to help keep communities safe, as well as those who work day in and out to protect them.”

The below encapsulates each grant award being celebrated at the March 30 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:

- **Tallahassee Fire Department** received \$22,533 worth of extrication and rescue equipment, including tools to assist with vehicle and structural collapse stabilization, vehicle extrication, rope rescues and forcible entry. The awarded equipment will improve the department’s rescue capabilities, allowing firefighters to provide safe and efficient services to their community.
- **Tallahassee Fire Academy** received a \$15,000 grant to help reimburse three recruits for tuition. Scholarship recipients will be selected for exhibiting

excellence in leadership and academia, encouraging other to follow suit and pursue educational opportunities post-graduation.

- **Taylor County B.O.C.C. – Fire Rescue** received a digital fire extinguisher training system worth \$16,895. The awarded training system will allow firefighters to train the community on the safe and proper use of fire extinguishers through hands-on instruction and demonstrations.

Event attendees include local firefighters, as well Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Procurement Specialist Brady Ridgon, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Manager of Finance and Compliance Gina Brown, Firehouse Subs Area Representatives Chris and Lisa Holmes, and the following Firehouse Subs franchisees: Matt and Joy Holmes, Scott Paul and Ralph Fabozzi.

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation was founded in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when Firehouse Subs co-founders, Chris Sorensen and Robin Sorensen, traveled to Mississippi where they provided food to first responders and survivors. As they traveled back to Florida, they knew they could do more and Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation was born with the mission of providing funding, life-saving equipment and educational opportunities to first responders and public safety organizations. Since its inception, the non-profit organization has given more than \$24 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$4.2 million in Florida.

Firehouse Subs restaurants participate in a number of fundraising efforts, including the sale of recycled pickle buckets for \$2. Donation canisters on register counters collect spare change, while the Round Up Program allows guests to “round up” their bill to the nearest dollar. Grant allocations are made possible thanks to the overwhelming support of Firehouse Subs restaurants and generous donors.

###

Connect:

Facebook: [Facebook.com/FirehouseSubsFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/FirehouseSubsFoundation)

Twitter: @savinglives

Website: www.firehousesubsfoundation.org