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MORE THAN \$27,000 WORTH OF LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO GREATER DETROIT FIRE DEPARTMENTS

LAKE ORION, Mich.— Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$27,222 worth of life-saving equipment grants awarded to Orion Township Fire Department and Deerfield Township Fire and Rescue during a press event at **10 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 2** at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at **1085 S. Lapeer Road, Lake Orion, Mich. 48360**.

“Giving back to our first responders is the primary goal of the Foundation,” said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters. “We’re in a very fortunate position that allows us to work together with Firehouse Subs restaurants to raise funds that help provide life-saving equipment locally and throughout the country. Thanks to the generosity of so many people, we’re truly making a difference.”

The below encapsulates each grant award being celebrated at the Aug. 2 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:

- **Orion Township Fire Department** received eight rescue saws with accessories valued at \$10,572. The awarded saws will replace the department’s outdated tools, allowing firefighters to quickly access a building to search for victims or extinguish a fire.
- **Deerfield Township Fire and Rescue** received nine sets of turnout gear valued at \$16,650. The awarded gear, which includes pants and coats, will replace old, damaged gear, allowing first responders to provide safe and efficient services to their community.

“We were ecstatic when we were notified our department would be a recipient of a Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation grant,” said Orion Township Fire Department Lieutenant Chris Hagan. “Our ventilation saws were approaching 20 years old, and this grant allowed us to replace all of them and add the versatility of saws that

can cut through steel and concrete. These saws will be able to expedite not only the ventilation of hot smoke and gases, but will also allow our firefighters to more expeditiously gain access to structures and potentially trapped victims."

Event attendees include local first responders, as well as Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters, Firehouse Subs Area Representative John Kupiec and Firehouse Subs Franchisees Rachel Porter, Debbie Porter and Neal Porter.

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 granted more than \$28 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$458,000 in Michigan.

Each restaurant recycles leftover, five-gallon buckets, available to guests for a \$2 donation to the Foundation. 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.

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