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MORE THAN \$76,000 WORTH OF LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO MACOMB COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENTS

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich.– Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$76,494 worth of life-saving equipment grants awarded to Utica Fire Department, Bruce-Romeo Fire Department and Shelby Township Fire Department during a press event at **10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 3** at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at **36696 Van Dyke Ave. Sterling Heights, Mich. 48312**.

“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. 3 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:

- **Utica Fire Department and Bruce-Romeo Fire Department** received extrication equipment worth a combined \$56,864. The awarded equipment will improve the departments’ rescue capabilities for victims in motor vehicle accidents.
- **Shelby Township Fire Department** received a fire extinguisher training package valued at \$19,630. The awarded system will allow firefighters to train members of the community on the safe and proper use of fire extinguishers through hands-on instruction and demonstrations.

“This is awesome news, because we’ve been wanting to get this simulator for several years,” said Shelby Township Fire Department Lieutenant Brian Werner. “Our Fire Prevention Division attends many public education events throughout our township all year long. During these events, one of the top asked questions is how to use a fire

extinguisher. We also spend time at our senior living complexes and educating elementary schools every October on how to prevent fires. This simulator gives us the missing link in our presentation, a hands on tool, to show our community how to handle a small fire. Remaining calm and clear thinking throughout the incident is critical, but until now we were only able to talk about it. With a hands on training tool, people will get a chance to see what it's like and be able to understand what we are teaching them.”

Event attendees include local firefighters, as well as Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters, Firehouse Subs Area Representatives John Kupiec and Jennifer Kupiec and Firehouse Subs Franchisee Josh Griessel.

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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