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FIREHOUSE SUBS PUBLIC SAFETY FOUNDATION IGNITES UTAH COUNTY WITH MORE THAN \$81,000 WORTH OF LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT

AMERICAN FORK, Utah – Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$81,691 worth of life-saving equipment grants awarded to four Utah County first responder organizations during a press event at **10 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 22** at the Meadows Firehouse Subs restaurant located at **218 North West State Road, American Fork, Utah 84003**.

“Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation aims to recognize and respond to needs in the community,” said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Senior Manager of Foundation Programs Jackie Gubbins. “Through the Foundation, we’re able to provide public safety organizations with needed equipment that they might not be able to obtain if it weren’t for our organization. It’s an honor to know we’re helping save lives.”

The below encapsulates each grant award being celebrated at the Aug. 22 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:

- **American Fork Fire Department** received extrication equipment valued at \$33,145. The awarded equipment will improve the department’s rescue capabilities for victims in motor vehicle accidents. Current gas-powered tools are oftentimes unreliable when temperatures are low, taking longer to start due to frozen connectors. The new battery-powered tools will eliminate this obstacle.
- **Lehi Police Department** received tactical helmets valued at \$12,950. The awarded gear will protect officers in the line of duty during hostile emergency situations. This becomes increasingly important as a 2016 report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) revealed the number of “active shooter” incidents is rising in the U.S.
- **Pleasant Grove Fire Department** received a chest compression system valued at \$21,481. The awarded device will assist firefighters by delivering uninterrupted

chest compressions at a constant rate and depth to cardiac arrest patients, helping improve a patient's chance of survival.

- **Utah County Sheriff's Mounted Posse** received 18 radios and remote speaker microphones valued at \$14,115. The awarded devices will improve communication between officers in the mountains during search and rescue missions.

"Officer safety is a major concern of our administration, but it is difficult to juggle so many priorities with the limited funds available," said Lehi Police Department Lieutenant Kenny Rose. "We are very appreciative of the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for their generosity in helping us acquire these tactical helmets. They are an important part of our plan to ensure our officers are able to return safely home to their families."

Event attendees include local first responders, as well as Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Senior Manager of Programs Jackie Gubbins, Firehouse Subs Vice President of Operations Services Rich Goodman, Firehouse Subs Area Representative Randy Judd and the following Firehouse Subs franchisees: Ryan Page, William Page, Jinder Singh and Gurvinder Gill.

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 \$469,000 in Utah.

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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