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MORE THAN \$28,000 WORTH OF LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO JACKSONVILLE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate a life-saving equipment grant awarded to Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department during a press event at **9 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30** at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at **1949 San Marco Blvd. Jacksonville, Fla. 32207**.

Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department received extrication equipment valued at \$28,475. A training session with Hurst Rescue Tool Specialist Tom Winkler will kick off the event. He will demonstrate how the awarded extrication equipment will improve the department's rescue capabilities for victims in motor vehicle accidents by drastically reducing extrication time, improving a patient's chances of survival. Jacksonville 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.

"It's always an honor to give back to those who work day in and out to keep us safe, and it's particularly special when it's a grant awarded in our own backyard," said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Senior Manager of Foundation Programs Jackie Gubbins. "Without our help, these organizations might not have been able to purchase the equipment on their own. It's incredible to hear stories and know our grant awards are actually saving lives."

Event attendees include local firefighters and Hurst Rescue Tool Specialist Tom Winkler, as well as several Firehouse Subs headquarters staff, including Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Senior Manager of Foundation Programs Jackie Gubbins and Firehouse Subs Area Representative Mike Branson.

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation was founded in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when Firehouse Subs 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 \$31 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$5.1 million in Florida.

Grant allocations are made possible thanks to the overwhelming support of Firehouse Subs restaurants and generous donors. 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. The Foundation is also the beneficiary of a Charitable Sales Promotion where Firehouse of America (FOA) will donate to the Foundation a sum equivalent to 0.13% of all gross sales with a minimum donation of \$1MM through December 31, 2018.

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