

For More Media Information Michelle Kelly / Tori andrews / Greer Hackett **The Zimmerman Agency** (850) 668-2222 • firehousesubs@zimmerman.com

MORE THAN \$54,000 WORTH OF LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC SAFETY

PITTSBURGH, Pa. – Continuing its mission of impacting the lifesaving capabilities and the lives of local heroes and their communities, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$54,334 worth of lifesaving equipment grants awarded to four local public safety organizations during a press event at **10 a.m. on Friday**, **Aug. 24, 2018** at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at 320 McHolme Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15275.

"We want to thank our donors who help us provide these lifesaving tools," said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters. "Our first responders are our heroes and we want to be sure they have the tools and technology they need to protect their communities."

The event will feature live demonstrations from local first responders, explaining the importance of the equipment 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.

The below encapsulates each grant award being celebrated at the Aug. 24 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:

• **City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety** received equipment for its community emergency response team (CERT),

including 150 CERT kits, 150 safety vests, 150 disaster preparedness starter kits and 20 personal bleeding control kits valued at \$18,922. The awarded equipment will help ensure the safety of the community, especially in the event of a natural disaster. In 2004, the remnants of Hurricane Ivan hit the city and caused widespread flooding, leaving 80,000 people without electricity or water, and severe structural damage in its wake. If a CERT team had been in place at that time, residents would have been able to easily access much needed resources.

- Moon Run Volunteer Fire Department received a variety of equipment for its rescue truck valued at \$12,803, including a portable power unit, eight handle conversions, a core valve, three hoses and a half gallon of mineral oil. The awarded equipment will replace obsolete, 15-year-old tools and improve the department's rescue and fire suppression capabilities.
- North Fayette Township Volunteer Fire Department received a gear washer valued at \$11,519. The awarded washer will provide a deep clean to the department's turnout gear, improving firefighter safety by reducing exposure to toxic chemicals and carcinogens.
- West Deer Volunteer Fire Company #2 received a brush skid unit valued at \$11,090. The company averages 10 to 20 brush fires each year not easily accessible by traditional emergency vehicle. The awarded skid unit will help cut the strain on firefighters and improve efficiency, enabling them to drive to the fire without hand stretching their lines.

Event attendees include: local first responders, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Senior Manager of Finance and Compliance Gina Brown, Firehouse Subs Corporate Controller Sheri Kohler, Firehouse Subs Area Representative Matt Liggett and Firehouse Subs Franchisee Robert Lingsch.

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, lifesaving equipment and educational opportunities to first responders and public safety organizations. Since its inception, the nonprofit organization has granted more than \$35 million to hometown heroes in 47 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$581,000 in Pennsylvania.

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. To donate online and support Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, visit <u>FirehouseSubsFoundation.org</u>.

###

Connect:

Facebook: <u>Facebook.com/FirehouseSubsFoundation</u> Twitter: @savinglives Website: www.firehousesubsfoundation.org