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## **MORE THAN \$47,000 WORTH OF LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT AWARDED TO WEST MARYLAND FIRST RESPONDERS**

ROCKVILLE, Md. – Oct 11, 2018 – Continuing its mission of impacting the lifesaving capabilities and the lives of local heroes and their communities, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation will celebrate \$47,552 worth of lifesaving equipment grants awarded to three local first responder organizations during a press event at **10 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018**, at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at 28 Upper Rock Circle, Rockville, Md. 20850.

“Most people assume first responders have the tools they need to save lives; the truth is that many times they are using older technology and even outdated equipment,” said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters. “We want to be sure they have the best tools and training to protect themselves and their communities.”

The event will feature live demonstrations from local first responders explaining the importance of the awarded 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 Oct. 11 event, including a brief description of equipment use and value:**

- **Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc.** received two hydraulic cutters valued at \$13,550. The awarded cutters will improve the squad’s rescue capabilities for victims in motor vehicle accidents by allowing first responders to cut through materials used in modern

manufacturing and quickly reach victims in need of medical attention.

- **McLean Volunteer Fire Department** received a chest compression device and accessories valued at \$17,389. **Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services** also received a chest compression device valued at \$16,613. The awarded devices will assist first responders by delivering uninterrupted chest compressions at a constant rate and depth to cardiac arrest patients, helping improve a patient's chance of survival.

Event attendees include local first responders, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters, Firehouse Subs Area Representative Dan Lowe and the following Firehouse Subs franchisees: Najeeb Aslam, Tommy Tsitouris, Matthew Crowley, Antoinette Ejikeme, DeWayne Ejikeme, Pamela Pitkin and Barry Pitkin.

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 non-profit organization has granted more than \$37.7 million to hometown heroes in 47 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$561,000 in Maryland.

Grant allocations are made possible thanks to the overwhelming support of Firehouse Subs restaurants and generous donors. Each restaurant recycles five-gallon pickle 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 [FirehouseSubsFoundation.org](http://FirehouseSubsFoundation.org).

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