



PALM BAY FIRE RESCUE

# NEWSLETTER



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- Peak Hour Squad goes in-service!
- LifePak 35's are coming!

On Friday, September 13th, 2024, city management, dignitaries, fire rescue personnel, and guests gathered at the future site of Station 7 to celebrate its groundbreaking. This new station will be located on the same property as the iconic and unforgettable Station 1 on Palm Bay Rd, affectionately known as "The Rock" by those who dedicated years of service to the east side of the city. Station 7 will house the already purchased Ladder 7, and Squad 7, which is currently in the build phase, along with a supporting brush truck. Stay tuned for updates on the construction!



The Command staff and training division spent 3 days conducting interviews, EMS assessments, and equipment knowledge exams for over 70 candidates who showed interest in being the next line of Palm Bay Fire Rescue firefighters. With the expected growth of the city and the department, the need for new hires is essential. The target is to start 26 new hires on October 21st, 2024.

Congratulations to Ben Wetterau for being awarded Firefighter of the Year for 2023-2024 by American Legion Post 117 of Palm Bay on August 21st! This prestigious recognition highlights Ben's unwavering dedication, bravery, and commitment to serving our community. He has recently been promoted to the rank of Driver Engineer and has just started paramedic school. Additionally, Ben is an active member of our honor guard team and the Palm Bay SWAT EMS Team. His hard work and resilience inspire his fellow firefighters and the community alike. We are proud to celebrate this well-deserved honor and look forward to seeing all the great things Ben will continue to achieve in the future! Thank you for your contributions to the success and growth of Palm Bay Fire Rescue!





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We are thrilled to celebrate the wonderful arrivals of two new bundles of joy! Chief Acevedo has welcomed his first child Catalina Acevedo, a beautiful baby girl born on 7/24/24, while Firefighter Dalien has joyfully expanded her family with the birth of her second child, Zahkai Haughton a precious baby boy born on 9/2/24. These joyous moments mark exciting new chapters in their lives, and we couldn't be happier for both families. Congrats to Richard and Gigi, and their families on your expanding households—your brothers and sisters at Palm Bay Fire Rescue are all very excited for the both of you!



## SEPTEMBER 11TH STAIR CLIMB

Although our 3rd Annual Sept. 11th Stair Climb was canceled due to inclement weather, several current and retired members of Palm Bay Fire Rescue, along with firefighters from neighboring communities, gathered to honor our fallen brothers and sisters. In a quiet and solemn walk, led by Tom "Bull" Hill, we paid tribute to the brave men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty. Every step we took in the rain symbolized our respect and admiration for their ultimate sacrifice in protecting our communities. \* The rescheduled stair climb was not completed at the time of this publication. \* #NeverForget



## EMS SKILLS FAIR

During the first week of September, crews from Palm Bay Fire Rescue participated in the 3rd Annual EMS Skills Fair at the Health First Training facility in Melbourne. Under the direction of Doctor Larissa Dudley, our team practiced high-acuity skills for some of the most challenging medical emergencies we encounter. Events like this enhance our ability to take the right course of action when providing critical care to the sick and injured.



Congratulations to our latest group of promotions! The Command Staff was truly impressed by the number of members who entered the promotional 'portal' during the 3rd quarter of 2024. We are incredibly proud of everyone who dedicated their time and effort to this important moment in their careers and for the fire rescue department.

Assistant Chief Brandon McKee

Battalion Chief Tyler Richmond

Driver Engineer Benjamin Wetterau

Driver Engineer Tanner Williams



Lieutenant Matthew Satawa

Lieutenant Thane Trujillo

Lieutenant Camden Drake

Lieutenant Micheal Curphey

Lieutenant Kyle Koshinski

## PEAK HOUR UNIT GOES IN SERVICE AND LIFEPAK 35'S ARE IN-BOUND!

"Squad 9," a peak hour unit, is now in service as of September 23, 2024. Due to the increase in call volume in the far south end of the city, a fast-response ALS unit has been deployed to provide immediate assistance until Station 9 and Engine 9 are operational. Temporary housing for Squad 9 will be at Sunrise Elementary School on Babcock St. SE. We are also very thrilled to announce that the purchasing process for the brand-new state-of-the-art LifePak 35 monitors has been completed. Palm Bay Fire Rescue will be the first department in Brevard County to receive these advanced devices. Stryker has informed us that the LP35 monitors will be delivered in 12 weeks. These features will enhance our advanced life support capabilities, allowing us to provide even better service to our community!

