



LAKELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

DOUGLAS E. RILEY, FIRE CHIEF
701 EAST MAIN STREET · LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33801
Phone (863) 834-8200 | Fax (863) 834-8295
WWW.LAKELANDGOV.NET/LFD

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Janel Vasallo, Public Relations and Information Manager

Telephone: (863) 834-8219

Cell: (863) 860-9011

Fax: (863) 834-8222

Email: janel.vasallo@lakelandgov.net

Lakeland Fire Department Hires Five New Firefighters

Lakeland, FL - The Lakeland Fire Department (LFD) is pleased to announce the hiring of five new firefighters that began duty on Monday, April 13, 2020. The new hires are filling vacancies from recent retirements and openings created as a result of internal promotions.

Although all the new hires are certified firefighters, this training course is designed to teach the new firefighters how to do things the "Lakeland" way. They review a full spectrum of practical skills they need to perform on the job as well as emergency medical training before being released into the field. Of the five new firefighters, all are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).

The hiring process was selective because of the large pool of applicants. "Our hiring committee is confident that it selected the best available candidates and it's comforting to know that the new firefighters joining our ranks are highly skilled and qualified to continue providing the high quality emergency services our department is known for." said Training Chief John Almskog, who is the coordinator of the hiring effort and leader of the department's four-week orientation program.

For more information, interview requests with department representatives, filming at the training site, etc. please contact Janel Vasallo.

More About the Lakeland Fire Department:

The Lakeland Fire Department was established as a career-department in 1916. The Lakeland Fire Department has an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification 1, the highest achievable rating. The department has seven stations serving approximately 110,000+ people in the City of Lakeland. The department has 179 employees, of which 156 are emergency response personnel. In 2019, the department responded to over 25,500 service calls in its 84 square-mile response area, which includes the city limits as well as portions of unincorporated Lakeland.

The department offers a wide range of services which includes heavy rescue, technical rescue, fire prevention, fire code enforcement, fire investigation, aircraft rescue and firefighting, and in-house fleet maintenance; all in addition to outstanding fire suppression and emergency medical response.

The Lakeland Fire Department is also passionate about being an active participant in its community and consistently giving back through philanthropic efforts and through non-emergency services like community outreach and preventative public education.

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