



PRESS RELEASE

St. Lucie County
FIRE DISTRICT

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For Immediate Release

BYSTANDER MAKES TOURNIQUET FROM BELT St. Lucie County Fire District Presents the Citizen Hero Award

ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FL – On Wednesday, January 18, 2023, the St. Lucie County Fire District will recognize Chuck Bruton for his quick actions that averted a potentially life-threatening situation.

The presentation will take place in the Commission Chambers, at 3:00 pm, during the Fire Board meeting, held at the St. Lucie County Fire District Administration office, 5160 NW Milner Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL.

On December 8, 2022, crews responded to reports of a vehicle verse a pedestrian in the parking lot of the Fort Pierce Publix on North US Hwy 1. According to Battalion Chief Mark Wilson, he arrived to find an elderly male laying on the ground with an open fracture to the leg and severe blood loss. At the patient's side was Mr. Burton providing critical lifesaving care.

Mr. Burton was volunteering that afternoon for the Salvation Army when he witnessed the accident and without hesitation rushed to render aid. He quickly recognized the severity of the bleeding and applied his belt as a tourniquet. If not for the quick thinking and immediate actions of Mr. Burton, the outcome would have been very different.

“All I did, was what I would want someone to do for me, if the roles were reversed. The man hit the ground and he was bleeding profusely- I never gave it a second thought, I ran to him and applied my belt. God gave me the strength to act.”

-Charles Bruton

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