



Media Advisory

September 6, 2024

PUSH-IN CEREMONY & BLESSING OF THE APPARATUS **Fire District Officially puts Engine 12 & Engine 15 into Service**

ST LUCIE COUNTY, FL – Next week, the St. Lucie County Fire District will officially put new **Engine 12** & new **Engine 15** into service following two traditional “Push-In” ceremonies.

What: A blessing of the apparatus by Fire District Chaplain retired Lt. Tommy Neiman, wet down by crew, and push-in by all.

When: **Monday September 9, 2024; 10:30AM (Station 12) / 1:00PM (Station 15)**

Where: **Station 12 (1850 SE Village Green Dr. PSL) / Station 15 (721 Ave D Fort Pierce)**

Who: Fire District administration and personnel, Fire Board Commissioners, and community members

Why: The “Push-In” ceremony pays homage to firefighters in the 1800s who used horse-drawn equipment and would have to literally, push the fire engines into the garage after returning from a fire. The event has since become a widely practiced tradition for new fire department vehicles. The wet-down is a ritual celebrated by many fire departments in the United States in which firefighters commission a new fire apparatus by anointing it with water sprayed from the retiring pumper’s tank water.

“This is a great moment for the organization and the membership as we get to showcase the hard work that went into designing and equipping these trucks. Both of these two engines are going to two of our highest run volume stations and these trucks will serve the community and our organization for years to come. This is a great moment for everyone involved.” –Division Chief Daniel Mikels

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