

## ***St. Lucie County Fire District News Release***

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### **St. Lucie County Fire District Honors Firefighters Who Saved Child From Burning Home**

*St. Lucie County, FL* – Lt. Steven Burns and Lt. Christopher Longo were recognized at a recent Fire Board Meeting for going into a burning home and saving the life of a young boy.

In the early morning of Monday, February 18 several crews were called to a home at 2270 North 25<sup>th</sup> Street in Ft. Pierce. The fire was well underway by the time the Fire District was called to the scene.

When they arrived, Lt. Steven Burns and Lt. Christopher Longo were informed by a member of the Ft. Pierce Police Department on scene that a child was still trapped inside the home. After delegating other crew members to assist two badly burned occupants already outside of the home, they went into the rear of the structure. They heard faint moans of the child inside and immediately jumped through a rear window.

“Through their experience and training, they were able to locate the child quickly and shield him with their protective gear,” said Fire Chief Ron Parrish. “They removed him from the building as flames rolled over their heads. Though critically injured their quick actions have given this child the best chance for survival.”

The Fire Chief presented the men with the “Chief’s Award for Excellence.” They are the first to receive this new Fire District award.

During the fire, the grandmother of the burn victim made a valiant attempt to rescue her grandson, but had to retreat because of heat and burn injuries of a large percentage of her body. She later succumbed to her injuries.

Two others in the home were also injured. The home was a total loss. The cause of the fire was accidental, due to cigarette smoking.



Lt. Christopher Longo, (left) and Lt. Steven Burns (right) were recently honored for their actions when saving a child from a burning home. Fire Chief Ron Parrish (center) presented the two the “Chief’s Award of Excellence” at a recent St. Lucie County Fire Board Meeting.