

St. Lucie County Fire District News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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St. Lucie County Firefighters agree to pay freeze, saving Fire District \$7 million

St. Lucie County, FL – St. Lucie County firefighters agreed to change the terms of their contract to save the Fire District approximately \$7 million over the next four years. The contract negotiations were finalized by the Fire Board at their monthly meeting on August 18.

The firefighters agreed to waive their previously approved Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for FY 2010-2011 and to forego any salary increases for FY 2011-2012. The Firefighters Union also agreed to delay a 3.25% COLA until FY 2012-2013.

“IAFF Local 1377 voted to freeze salaries in the spirit of cooperation, and in order to assist the economic viability of the St. Lucie County Fire District,” explained Tim Munson, President of IAFF Local 1377.

This was the second time during the current economic downturn that the firefighters agreed to assist the Fire District with its budget concerns. Last year, they agreed to postpone an approved COLA, which saved the Fire District over \$2.7 Million over three years.

“The firefighters and Fire District continue to work together to find ways to save money,” said Fire Chief Ron Parrish. “The firefighters stepped up to the plate again to assist the Fire District and, in turn, our community.”