



PRESS RELEASE

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St. Lucie County
FIRE DISTRICT

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For Immediate Release

ST. LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT ANNOUNCES NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Kenneth Palestrant is only the second in the Fire District's history

St. Lucie County, FL – The St. Lucie County Fire District is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kenneth Palestrant. Dr. Palestrant joins the fire district family following the retirement of Dr. Chi Chiou Liu. Dr. Liu was the very first medical director and served 40 years.

Dr. Palestrant joined the fire district as an Associate Medical Director on April 15, 2020. He was appointed as the Medical Director on August 19, 2020. He has been practicing medicine for the past 30 years, 26 of those here in St. Lucie County.

In 2003, Dr Palestrant founded the first “Physicians Immediate Care” urgent care clinic, which over the next 15 years expanded to five urgent care clinics covering St Lucie and northern Martin County. Physicians Immediate Care quickly became the premier urgent care network in the region, employing over 100 dedicated employees with almost 60,000 patient visits annually.

Dr. Palestrant started his career in the emergency room as an orderly on the night shift at Hialeah Hospital. He then became a paramedic for Broward County EMS and later received his nursing degree from the University of the State of New York. He attended medical school at the Universidad Tecnologica de Santiago, in the Dominican Republic.

“I am very excited and honored to be named the new Medical Director for St. Lucie County Fire District, having worked with many of the chiefs, firefighters and support personnel throughout the years.” – Dr. Kenneth Palestrant

“We are happy to bring Dr. Ken Palestrant onboard as the Fire District's Medical Director. He brings decades of experience in medicine and emergency medical services. He has been deeply involved in the St Lucie County medical community and will further advance our agencies ability to serve our community.” – Fire Chief Nate Spera

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