

## **Fire District officially puts new engine into service following a "Push-In" ceremony on Thursday.**

Fort Pierce – On Thursday, April 15, 2021, the St. Lucie County Fire District will officially put new engine 1 into service following a traditional “Push-In” ceremony. The ceremony will include a wet-down and blessing of the new apparatus.

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.

The apparatus committee has been very instrumental in organizing the first “Push-In” ceremony for St. Lucie County in many years. The fire district’s chaplain, retired Lieutenant Tommy Neiman, will be on hand to give the blessing and cake will be served after to celebrate.

The event will take place at 1:30 PM at fire station 1, located at 2400 Rhode Island Avenue in Fort Pierce. The media is invited to attend.

"It's a tradition that we hope carries on for many years when we get new fire apparatus." –Captain Stefani

