

WASHINGTON COUNTY FIRE SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2024

Washington County Fire Department Receives \$10,000 Grant from State Farm® to Purchase Needed Equipment

*Donation made in collaboration with the National Volunteer Fire Council and announced
in time for Fire Prevention Week*

Just in time for Fire Prevention Week, October 6-12, Washington County Fire Department is excited to announce that it is one of a hundred volunteer fire departments across the nation to receive a \$10,000 grant through the State Farm® Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program. In collaboration with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), State Farm has awarded \$1 million in grants to help local fire departments obtain needed equipment to increase their responders' safety, effectiveness and ability to serve their community.

With this grant award, the Washington County Fire Department will enhance its capabilities by purchasing necessary firefighter equipment for a grant-funded fire truck, that is expected to arrive by January 2025.

"Our firefighters work hard to protect our community – helping their neighbors on their worst day. It is critical that we provide our dedicated first responders the necessary tools and equipment to do their job safely and effectively. This is ultimately beneficial to the taxpayers of Washington County in their most dire moments of need," said County Fire Chief Justin Barron.



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This is the inaugural year of the State Farm Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program. Volunteer fire departments play a critical role in protecting communities across the country, especially small towns and rural areas. However, they often operate on tight budgets and struggle to find the funding for needed equipment. In collaboration with the NVFC, State Farm aimed to award 50 grants to local fire departments. However, the overwhelming response prompted State Farm to double its commitment to 100 grants, benefiting even more local departments and communities.

State Farm also provided all applicants with a membership to the NVFC – the leading association representing the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services – so they have access to additional tools, resources, and training to help them thrive.

Learn more about the State Farm Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program at www.nvfc.org/statefarm.

Presentation of Grant Check

On Wednesday, October 23, 2024, State Farm will present Washington County Fire Department with a \$10,000.00 grant check at the Sunny Hills Fire Department located at 3868 Gables Blvd Chipley, Fla at 10:00 a.m.

About State Farm

For over 100 years, the mission of State Farm has been to help people manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected and realize their dreams. State Farm and its affiliates are the largest providers of auto and home insurance in the United States. Its more than 19,400 agents and 67,000 employees serve over 91 million policies and accounts – including auto, fire, life, health, commercial policies and financial services accounts. Commercial auto insurance, along with coverage for renters, business owners, boats and motorcycles, is also available. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 39 on the 2024 Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit <http://www.statefarm.com>.



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About the National Volunteer Fire Council

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides critical resources, programs, education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

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