



## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Janel Vasallo, Public Relations and Information Manager

Telephone: (863) 834-8219

Cell: (863) 860-9011

Fax: (863) 834-8222

Email: [janel.vasallo@lakelandgov.net](mailto:janel.vasallo@lakelandgov.net)

### LFD Hosts Teen Camp to Expose Youth to Careers in the Fire Service

Lakeland, FL - The Lakeland Fire Department (LFD) will be hosting its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Teen Firefighter Camp on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 from Noon to 4:00 PM at Fire Station 7 (3150 Drane Field Rd , Lakeland, FL 33811).

An action-packed day of interactive opportunities is planned for the teens in attendance. The event is designed to teach participants more about careers in the fire service. The four-hour program will include:

- Extrication Exercises
- Apparatus Familiarization and Maintenance
- Equipment and Gear Use
- Station Tours
- Lunch
- Goody bags from the Department

The Lakeland Fire Department is dedicated to engaging with the community it serves in non-emergency interactions. The Teen Firefighter Camp is targeted towards diverse youth in Lakeland in hopes that they find a path towards becoming emergency responders; particularly by educating youth that may not be familiar with or often exposed to firefighting and emergency response.

Many fire departments, like LFD, struggle with receiving a robust amount of diverse applicants when hiring firefighters. This program hopes to expose students early on, prior to graduation, to the fire service so that they may someday consider becoming firefighters. Firefighting is a fulfilling and rewarding career. The hands on and immersive program LFD has prepared for the students aims to show all the participants what a great career choice it can be.

LFD anticipates approximately 60 students. They are from summer camps throughout Polk County, including the City of Lakeland's Teen Adventure Service Camp, Boys and Girls Club of Lakeland, and Campfire Sunshine.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend. Organizers and participants will be on hand to answer questions.

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