NEWS RELEASE

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Suffolk
V I R G I N I A
It's a good time to be in Suffolk

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SUFFOLK FIREFIGHTERS RECEIVE SPECIAL GIFT

SUFFOLK, VA (December 19, 2016) As the adage goes, the holiday season is the time of giving. Suffolk Fire & Rescue personnel are known for their giving throughout the year by assisting families in their time of need. A local family decided it was their time to give back to those men and women who are there when that call goes out in times of danger.

4 year old Ishaan Bhende along with his 7 year old brother and their mother paid a special visit to Suffolk Fire & Rescue Station number 5 on December 14, 2016. For all of his birthdays, Ishaan's family has encouraged family and friends to give to others in lieu of gifts for Ishaan. It started with giving gifts to the nurses at the hospital where he was born. This year, the family chose to give to the Firefighters at Station 5.

(more)

Ishaan's brother, Vedant, was a graduate of this Summer's Suffolk Fire & Rescue Life at Station 5. Their mother, Priyanka, said the camp made an impact on Vedant who wanted to say thanks to the Firefighters, "Without thinking twice, they save people in need. We are lucky to have resources like these."

Along with gift cards for the fire fighters, the Bhende's provided smoke detectors for the staff to give out to the community during their outreach efforts. These gifts brought smiles and heartfelt gratitude from the firefighters at Station 5. Lieutenant Jeremy Gould noted, "In the Fire Department and the Police as well, we see so many bad things. Through the years of doing this job, you have an opportunity to see so many good things as well. This is definitely one of those good things. This young man did this with his birthday money to look out for the Firefighters and just show his appreciation."

During Ishaan and Vedant's visit to Fire Station 5, they were given a tour of the facility including an opportunity to sit in a fire truck and talk with the shift that was on duty.

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