

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT HONORS GRADUATES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CITIZENS' FIRE & RESCUE ACADEMY**

SUFFOLK, VA (December 14, 2017) The Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department debuted their Citizens' Fire & Rescue Academy in the Fall of 2017. The academy offered attendees the opportunity to participate in an educational and stimulating experience where they could learn firsthand about the inner workings and operations of the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department.

Sessions included classroom instruction as well as practical, hands-on lessons with an overview of Fire Administration, the Support Services Division, Technical Services Division, Operations Division, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, Search and Rescue, Fire Prevention, and Emergency Management.

(more)

Suffolk Fire & Rescue Chief Cedric Scott noted, "The Citizens' Fire and Rescue Academy was designed to enhance our engagement with our Citizens. I am very grateful to the Citizens who participated and the instructors who shared their knowledge and time. This was our first time embarking on such a task and we are very pleased that it was a big success. Our plan is to continue to conduct the academy on an annual basis and we hope that everyone will consider signing up next year. I sincerely congratulate our graduates on successfully completing the program."

The academy wrapped up the five week long course with a graduation ceremony on December 7, 2017 where the participants were honored and recognized for their efforts to learn more about the department.

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