



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Firefighters, Families, Public to Gather for Annual Ceremony

Baton Rouge, LA – The Louisiana Walk of Honor Foundation, in cooperation with the State Fire Marshal's Office, will present the 2017 Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Ceremony this Saturday, April 8th, on the grounds of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety complex in Baton Rouge.

The ceremony is an annual event held to honor Louisiana firefighters who have died in line of duty incidents or as a result of fire scene-related illnesses, such as cancer. Dozens of firefighters, fire service representatives, families, and the general public from around the state are expected to participate in the ceremony, which is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. and will be followed by a luncheon.

Those to be specifically honored at this year's event are as follows:

District Chief Spencer J. Chauvin
St. John Parish Fire Department
August 28, 2016

Asst. Chief Ernest P. Doughty, Jr.
East Side Fire Department
May 9, 2016

Operator Larry A. Plaisance, Sr.
David Crockett Steam Fire Co. No. 1
April 8, 2015

The names of Chauvin, Doughty, and Plaisance, respectively, will join the names of 113 other firefighters on the Wall of Honor—the centerpiece of the Memorial—which was inaugurated on April 8, 2006.

A portion of the event will be dedicated to the unveiling of a new monument honoring fire department dispatchers, whose services have proven to be invaluable within the fire service through the receiving and relaying of crucial information to responding fire crews.

"Dispatchers are the unsung heroes of the fire service," said State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning, Jr., who will be the featured speaker at the event. "They are the first line of defense in battling any fire through their ability to receive, process, and rapidly relay information to firefighters, and for that they deserve recognition for their service," Browning said.

The public is cordially invited to attend Saturday's event, held at 8181 Independence Boulevard in Baton Rouge.

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