

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Contact:**

Debbie George

757.514.4106

757.374.1770

Andy Franklin

757.514.4105

757.777.2035

### **Suffolk Fire and Rescue Welcomes Seven New Firefighters**

SUFFOLK, VA (July 11, 2011) Suffolk Fire & Rescue welcomes seven newly minted firefighters to its ranks. Graduation for this most recent academy took place at Southside Regional Fire Academy on Friday July 8.

Each firefighter spent the last six months in the academy learning emergency medical skills – becoming certified to the level of Emergency Medical Technician - Enhanced. And two of the firefighters are certified at the higher level of Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic. In addition to emergency medical training, the firefighters also learned basic fire skills in many areas including firefighter safety, ladders, hose and equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, hazardous materials, emergency vehicle operations and structure firefighting, just to name a few. All passed state tests and are now certified Firefighters.

A photo of the graduates is attached. The new Firefighters (in white shirts) are listed from left to right: Glen Turner, Barry Utter, Jerome Willoughby, David Dail, Chris Strong, Ryan West, and Gezelle Weatherman. Deputy Chief Spicer, Deputy Chief Taylor, and Chief Outlaw are also pictured.

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