## NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Four Mississippi Fallen Firefighters to be Honored at National Memorial Service October 9

EMMITSBURG, MD – The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service will honor four firefighters who died in the line of duty from Mississippi. They are among the 79 firefighters who died in 2015 and 33 firefighters who died in previous years who will be remembered at the official national service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland on Sunday, October 9.

Engineering Technician Steve Cobb, age 55, of the USDA Forest Service, DeSoto National Forest died in a U.S. Forest Service helicopter crash while monitoring a controlled burn on March 30, 2015.

Captain Dwight Greer, age 44, of the Philadelphia Fire Department died after he collapsed during required department physical fitness training following an emergency response on May 6, 2015.

Captain Willie B. Ratliff, age 66, of the City of Clarksdale Fire Department died after required physical fitness training on December 21, 2015.

Firefighter John L. Shoup, age 38, of the Ashland Volunteer Fire Department died on March 15, 2015, after suffering a heart attack while at the scene of a structure fire.

Their names will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial on the Academy grounds. The national tribute is sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration.

Thousands are expected to attend the service, including families and friends of the fallen firefighters, members of Congress, Administration officials and other dignitaries. Families will receive flags flown over the U. S. Capitol and the National Memorial. Members of the fire service, honor guard units and pipe and drum units from across the country will participate in this national tribute.

For a complete list of fallen firefighters being honored and a widget to display their information on your website, along with Memorial Weekend related videos, photos, media and broadcast information go to <a href="https://www.firehero.org">www.firehero.org</a>.