



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Three Mississippi Fallen Firefighters to be Honored at National Memorial Service on October 7

*For live streaming information and satellite coordinates, along with video of events for
downloading, go to www.live.firehero.org*

EMMITSBURG, MD – The U.S. Fire Service will honor three firefighters, who died in the line of duty, from Mississippi during the 37th National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service on Sunday, October 7, 2018. They are among the 80 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2017 and 23 firefighters who died in previous years who will be remembered at the official national service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Deputy Chief Clinton Alvin Beasley, age 80, of the Sumrall Volunteer Fire Department, died on March 15, 2017, after being struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while working at the scene of an MVA involving a dump truck. Firefighter Loretta Sykes was also killed.

Fire Chief Billy W. Matthews, II, age 71, of the Bassfield Volunteer Fire Department suffered a heart attack and died on February 14, 2017, while operating at a brush/grass fire, working to protect a nearby church.

Firefighter Loretta A (Lorrie) Sykes, age 53, of the Sumrall Volunteer Fire Department, died on March 15, 2017, after being struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while working at the scene of an MVA involving a dump truck. Deputy Chief Clinton A. Beasley was also killed.

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.

More than 5,000 people, including families, friends, members of Congress, Administration officials and firefighters are expected to attend on Sunday. Firefighter Honor Guards and Pipe & Drum units from across the U.S. will participate in this national remembrance.

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 www.firehero.org.