



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Four North Carolina 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 four firefighters, who died in the line of duty, from North Carolina 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.

Firefighter Rufus E. Brinson, Jr., age 50, of the Reelsboro Volunteer Fire Department died on June 6, 2008, after collapsing, while refilling a pumper with another firefighter that had been used during a live fire training exercise.

Firefighter Jason Keith Hensley, age 40, of the Triple Community Fire Department died on October 9, 2017, after he was struck and killed just after midnight, by a passing driver, as he was clearing debris from the roadway after Hurricane Nate.

Lieutenant Donald “Reid” Key, II, age 31, of the Whispering Pines Fire Rescue Department, died on December 27, 2016, after seeking treatment for a severe headache within 24-hours of responding to an emergency call for an automatic fire alarm. At the local hospital, it was discovered that he had a previously undiagnosed brain tumor and he was airlifted to a regional medical center on December 26, 2016.

Captain Eric Durean Lacewell, age 51, of the Wilmington Fire Department, fell while working at the fire station and suffered a severe cervical spine injury, resulting in quadriplegia. As a result of complications from his injuries, he was hospitalized numerous times and died on November 4, 2014.

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.