



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

TENNESSEE FIRE SERVICE AND CODES ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 22, 2006

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TENNESSEE'S TUFF-EST TO COMPETE IN STATEWIDE CHALLENGE

Bell Buckle, TN – Firefighters from across the state will compete in the 3rd Annual Tennessee Ultimate Firefighter Challenge, known as the “TUFF” Challenge, which will be held at the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy (TFACA) on Saturday, September 30.

The event is sponsored by the Tennessee Fire Chief's Association (TFCA), the Tennessee Fireman's Association (TFA) and the Tennessee Fallen Firefighter Memorial Committee. The competition celebrates firefighters and launches Fire Prevention Month, which is in October.

“This challenge celebrates the athleticism and strength of our states' first responders.” said Paula Flowers, State Fire Marshal and Tennessee's Commissioner of Commerce and Insurance. “I am proud of our competitors and their proven dedication to the fire service.”

The event consists of a rigorous timed course of tasks including victim rescue, ventilation, hose hoisting and climbing. The tasks simulate the challenges firefighters face in any emergency situation.

The TUFF Challenge began in 2004 and has grown with each year. Competitors often train all year in preparation for the competition.

From Clarksville, to Memphis, to Nashville, to Knoxville, registrations for 2006 consist of 151 total competitors, including a 4-person female team, 26 individual competitors and 28 teams from more than 24 Tennessee fire departments.

Proceeds from the TUFF Challenge benefit the Tennessee Fallen Firefighter Memorial. The memorial will be dedicated to the men and women that have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities and neighbors. The TUFF Challenge raises thousands of dollars each year for the memorial fund.

The TUFF Challenge is scheduled for September 30 beginning at 8:00 at TFACA located at 2161 Unionville-Deason Road in Bell Buckle. The event is open to the public and will include many family activities, including face painting, dunking booth and a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog.

2161 UNIONVILLE/DEASON ROAD
BELL BUCKLE, TENNESSEE 37020
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Participants for the 2006 TUFF Challenge include the following:

TEAMS

AEDC Fire Department - Charlie Armstrong, Chris Graham, Richard Gunn, Kip Luttrell, Jay Spry

Almaville Fire and Rescue - Hell Fire - Kevin Bennison, Mark Bricker, Eric Meyer, Daniel Brownlow, Ryan King

Ashland City Volunteer Fire Department - Brandon Baker, Steven Ellis, Marty Blackwell, Sam Waldron, Kevon Wilson

Brentwood Fire Department - Jerrod Hawkins, Chris Bowen, John Lopiccolo

Brentwood Fire Department Team #1- Shane Norris, James Ursey, Don Lines, Craig Calvacca

Brentwood Fire Department Team #2 - Robert Ivey, David Windrow, Chuck Hood, Scott Ellis

City of Knoxville – Curtis Scott, J=Kevin Andrews, Clayton Collins, Adam Noe, Pete Hayes

City of White House Fire Department - Shawn Railey, Rob Brewer, Shane Wilson, Solomon Schroeder, Brent Lanius

Clarksville Fire Department - Don Royce, Gary Santora, Michael Welch

Columbia Fire Department - Roy Brooks, Jason Delk, Brain Green, Nick Brown, Kris Webber

Cookeville Fire Department Team #1- Hal Cook, Justin Birdwell, James Clouse, Brian Harris

Cookeville Fire Department Team #2 - Shawn Roberson, Jason Stewart, Toby Lee

Gordonsville Volunteer Fire Department - Aaron Sterling, Danny Cowell, Jiimy Gregory, Jerry Craighead, Josh Collins

Harriman City Fire Department - Jon Johnson, Preston Hamby, Wayne Best, Eric Rackard, Jay Sampson

Harriman City Fire Department - Dan King, Ryan Ladd, Chris Peddicord, Matt Hickey

Kittrell Volunteer Fire Department - Kenneth Presley, Chris Kirksey, Adam Long, Chuck Sayler, Timothy Haynes

Murfreesboro Fire Department - Daryl Alexander, Tim Forsthoff, Lance Sutton, Ray Robinson

Memphis Fire Department – Team Ka-Ping – Chip Webster, Brandon Eggers, Jeremy Carver

Nashville Fire Department – Kevin Ward, Fred Ray, Tim Hampton, Michael Taylor, David Loftis

Portland Fire Department - Isaac Reynolds, Carl Weatherbee, Brett Gregory, Chad Meadors, Chris Bellavia

Putnam County Volunteer Fire Department - Zach Womack, Kevin Brown, Kevin Jones, Tony Waters, John Barrow

Rural Metro - Hard Knox - Dawna Landis, J. Plante, Diana Cline, Tara Enoch

Rural Metro - Loyd Williams, Alex Kennedy, Scott Kinney, Andrell Cummings, Jason Sichler

Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department - Daniel George, Chris Sobol, Josh Parsons, Walter Donnell

Shackle Island Volunteer Fire Department - Shackle Island Fire/Rescue - David Frost, Cody Steele, Mike Scudder, Nick Traini, Rick Lawson

Smyrna Fire Department - Smyrna All Stars - William Wheeler, Daryl Wytttenbach, Try King, Carl Greer, Zack Haeuptle

Smyrna Fire Department - Smyrna Young Guns - Drew Noland, Anthony Pipitone, Jerry Mosley, Rogre Woods II, Stephen Graves

Unionville Volunteer Fire Department - Unionville Volunteers - Kenneth Holley, Derek Reeves, Michael Allen, Justin Bird, Brandon McCullough

INDIVIDUALS

Daryl Alexander, Murfreesboro Fire Department-Kevin Bennison, Almaville Fire Department-Brandon Baker, Ashland City Volunteer Fire Department-Diana Cline, Rural Metro-Brandon Eggers, Memphis Fire Department-Daniel Fipps, Maryville Fire Department- Alex Fowler, Rural Metro-Jerrod Hawkins, Brentwood Fire Department- Randy Jones, Columbia Fire Department - Dan King, Harriman City Fire Department-Matt Kinney, Rural Metro-Dawna Landis, Rural Metro-John LoPiccolo, Brentwood Fire

Department- Chris Pefficord, Harriman City Fire Department- J. Plante, Rural Metro- Jason Sichler, Rural Metro-Josh Sinard, White Pine Volunteer Fire Department-Jay W. Spry, AEDC- Cody Steele, Shackle Island Volunteer Fire Department- William Steward, McMinnville Fire Department-Michael Taylor, Nashville Fire Department-John Tillett, City of Knoxville-Chip Webster, Memphis Fire Department-Michael Welch, Clarksville Fire Department

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