

July 27, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

New Fire Recruits Graduate Tonight

The Springfield Fire Department has some new faces. Eight new recruits will graduate from Class 412 of the annual Fire Training Academy at 6 p.m., Friday, July 27 at Mercy O'Reilly Cancer Center, 2055 S. Fremont.

The department is fully staffed – about 210 professionals, providing emergency services in a 82-plus square-mile area from 12 fire stations.

Recruits undergo a rigorous training process in the 14-week academy, including physical workouts, hazardous materials training, introduction to technical rescue, and instruction to receive firefighter I and II certificates.

The new firefighters will work at various fire stations around the city and will be on probation for one year as they continue training.

A fall academy will take place due to a SAFER grant the department received to hire nine additional firefighters. That academy will be filled with applicants already on a waiting list.

Springfield's earliest days as a community included a volunteer fire department organized in the 1840s. A paid department was established on January 6, 1897, which continues to actively recruit and train firefighters through its own academy. Equal opportunity hiring and promotion is a top priority.

See the Frequently Asked Questions about becoming a firefighter.

For more information, contact Cora Scott at 417-864-1009 or Andy Woody, Assistant Chief Training Division at 417-864-1500.