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Chief Bob Parnell Issues Update regarding Procession of Fallen Firefighters

Salisbury, NC_March 9, 2008 – Chief Bob Parnell, speaking on behalf of the City of Salisbury and the Salisbury Fire Department stated today that the procession for the two fallen firefighters to Salisbury, North Carolina has been established. Departing from Charlotte, the procession will occur at 3 pm on Monday, March 10, 2008. Expected arrival time in Salisbury is approximately 4 pm. The Salisbury Fire Department invites citizens to join the public safety tradition of paying respect as the procession passes by.

This news comes approximately forty-eight hours after the loss of Firefighter Victor A. Isler and Firefighter Justin Edward Monroe during an early morning structure fire at 1910 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Salisbury Millwork.

Locally, investigations into the origin and cause of the fire continue today by the Salisbury Police and Fire Departments, and the Rowan County Sheriff's Department. Other agencies assisting include a national response team dispatched from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) and officials of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (O.S.H.A.), Department of Labor.

Funeral arrangements are pending and being handled by Lyerly's Funeral Home, 515 S. Main Street in Salisbury. Arrangements will be made available online at www.lyerlyfuneralhome.com and at 704-633-9031. Details are forthcoming.

To support the families of the two fallen firefighters, the City of Salisbury and the Salisbury Fire Department are in the process of establishing a fund to aid their families. The Bank of North Carolina, with branches in both Salisbury and Harrisburg, will serve as the repository for these tax-deductible donations. A link to the Bank of North Carolina website will be available to web users by early this week, via the City of Salisbury website at www.salisburync.gov.

In addition, Salisbury Fire Department Chaplain Dan Peters, working in conjunction with the NC Fallen Firefighters Foundation (www.ncfff.org), announced yesterday that red ribbons are available at Fire Station #1, 514 E. Innes Street; Station #2, 2312 S. Main Street; Station #3, 1604 W. Innes Street; and Station #4, 2325 Statesville Blvd. Peters explains, "These ribbons, received through an anonymous donation to the NC Fallen Firefighters Foundation, will serve as a reminder to fellow firefighters, citizens and the community that our two fallen brothers will not be forgotten." Complimentary ribbons will also be available to citizens via participating local establishments. The location listing for Red Ribbon distribution sites evolves daily and is available online at the city website www.salisburync.gov/howtohelp.html.

The City of Salisbury and the Salisbury Fire Department appreciate your continued prayers and respect for our firefighters, their families and those affected by this tragic incident.

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