



NEW MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS FOR RECEIVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE DeSoto Rural Fire Protection District. APPOINTMENT TO THIS POSITION SHOULD NOT BE MISTAKEN FOR ARRIVAL AT THE FINISH LINE; YOU SHOULD STRIVE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW OR UNDERSTAND SOMETHING BETTER EVERY DAY, GIVE FREELY TO OTHERS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU POSSESS WHENEVER THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF, AND CONTINUALLY PREPARE FOR THE JOB OUR CITIZENS EXPECT US TO PERFORM WHEN THEY CALL US TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS.

WHILE THE DISTRICT DOES HAVE MINIMUM STANDARDS BECAUSE THE LINE HAS TO BE DRAWN SOMEWHERE, WE EXPECT MORE THAN THE MINIMUM FROM OUR MEMBERS. ANYONE CAN GREET CUSTOMERS, FLIP BURGERS, CLEAN THE FLOORS, OR EVEN WEAR A T-SHIRT, BUT IT TAKES HONOR, INTEGRITY, PRIDE, A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF GRIT AND A SENSE OF DUTY TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND WHAT THE AVERAGE PERSON WOULD FOR ANOTHER TO TRULY BECOME A MEMBER OF THE DeSoto Rural Fire Protection District AND NOT BE JUST AN EMPLOYEE "HERE FOR A PAYCHECK". WHILE THE DISTRICT HAS MANY POSITIONS THAT INCLUDE SOMETHING FOR ALMOST EVERYONE, THE POSITION OF FIREFIGHTER IS RESERVED FOR THOSE WILLING TO SACRIFICE THEIR TIME, COMFORT, AND OFTENTIMES THEIR SAFETY IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS. THIS JOB IS NOT FOR EVERYONE.

BELOW IS A LIST OF TIPS, INFORMATION & GROUND RULES TO HELP YOU EARN YOUR STAY:

- REPORT FOR YOUR SHIFT ON TIME (07:01 IS LATE), THE SHIFTS ROTATE ON A 48/96 SCHEDULE.
- COME PREPARED FOR YOUR SHIFT. FOOD, DRINK, CLOTHING, BEDDING, HYGIENE SUPPLIES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. **PROPERLY HYDRATE.**
- BE EXCITED TO EXPERIENCE THIS NEW ADVENTURE.
- BE GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP PEOPLE.
- FOCUS ON BEING A FIREFIGHTER FIRST, THE REST WILL COME IN IT'S OWN TIME.
- DO NOT DO ANYTHING YOU ARE NOT TRAINED OR CLEARED BY THE DISTRICT TO DO.
- LIMIT YOUR RECLINER TIME, MAXIMIZE YOUR LEARNING AND REHEARSAL TIME.
- TAKE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR YOURSELF.
- DO YOUR SHARE OF CHORES & CHECKS AND PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING AND PR EVENTS.
- TREAT EVERYONE WITH THE SAME BASIC LEVEL OF RESPECT THAT YOU WOULD WANT FOR YOUR FAMILY.
- TRY TO GET JUST 1% BETTER AT SOMETHING EACH DAY...IN 100 DAYS YOU'LL BE 100% BETTER THAN WHEN YOU STARTED.
- THE DISTRICT HOSTS WEEKLY TRAINING THE 2ND THROUGH THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 19:00 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED OR IF IT FALLS ON A HOLIDAY. THESE SESSIONS ARE REPEATED FOR EACH SHIFT THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.
- VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETINGS ARE THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.
- THE MINIMUM TIME REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE DISTRICT IS 12HR. / WEEK OR 48HR. / MONTH. THE DISTRICT PREFERS 24HR. / WEEK AND 96HR. / MONTH.
- DO NOT BASE YOUR PROGRESS OR SUCCESS ON THE TIMELINE OF OTHERS, FOCUS ON YOUR OWN GROWTH.

COMPLETION OF THIS BOOK, OBTAINING FF 1&2 CERTIFICATION, OR PRIOR EXPERIENCE AT DeSoto Rural OR ANY OTHER FIRE SERVICE PROVIDER ALONE DOES NOT QUALIFY AS COMPLETION OF THE PROBATIONARY STATUS. COMPLETION OF THE PROBATIONARY STATUS IS BASED ON THE COMPLETION OF THIS BOOK AND/OR MEETING THE STANDARDS IN THIS BOOK AND THE OBSERVED READINESS, COMPETENCE, EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, DRIVE, AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY DEMONSTRATED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL.