CITY OF SUNRISE FLORIDA

Memorandum

To: Captain Michael McCord

From: John McNamara, Fire Chief

Date: February 3, 2026

Re: Firefighter of the Month – February 2026

CC: Battalion Chief Cy Egert, Battalion Chief Jeff Martin, Battalion Chief Chris Arbos, Division Chief Manuel Pastrana, File

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On December 3, 2025, your unit – EMS 39 – along with Engine 72 and Rescue 72 responded to a patient who suffered a fall with serious injuries. Due to the injuries, it was determined that the patient was a candidate for "Whole Blood." While the crew began setting up the procedure for whole blood administration, further assessment revealed that the patient had no lung sounds on one side. As the EMS Captain, you decided to perform a "Finger Thoracostomy" to facilitate airway exchange in a patient with a compromised airway. This procedure is new and complex and may pose risks to the patient if not performed properly.

In short, you performed it flawlessly, which helped save this patient's life.

In Battalion Chief Cy Egert's recommendation of you being a Firefighter of the Month candidate, he stated:

"*Certainly, the crews of E72/R72 should not go unnoticed for their own efforts on this incident. I believe Captain McCord's actions, however, are spotlighted, as this procedure has inherent risk to the patient if not performed accurately. Mike recognized this and still weighed the risk/benefit of the procedure, ultimately siding on the patient's best interest to perform this life-saving procedure. Mike is a true example of what one gets when you add a career's worth of experience, along with a high level of dedication to the job. We should all be proud of him and proud to be part of this progressive Fire-Rescue Department.*"

I could not have said it any better myself! Proud to have you on our team and serving all the residents, visitors, and business owners of not just Sunrise, but wherever Sunrise Fire Rescue may be called.

As a result of your efforts, it is a great privilege to recognize you as Firefighter of the Month for February 2026.