



Memorandum

To: Mayor Michael Ryan, Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Guzman, Assistant Deputy Mayor Latoya Clark, Commissioner Neil Kerch, Commissioner Joseph Scuotto

From: John K. McNamara, Fire Chief

Date: August 31, 2026

Re: Firefighter of the Month – USAR Florida Task Force II – Venezuela Earthquakes

CC: Battalion Chief Daniel Gamiotea, Captain Christopher Botelho, Captain Alexander Compain, Rescue Lieutenant Michael Rowland

The City of Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department proudly recognizes four of its members who deployed with **Urban Search and Rescue – Florida Task Force II (FL-TF2)** in response to the earthquakes that impacted Venezuela in June 2026.

Florida Task Force II is comprised of specially trained personnel capable of responding to complex search-and-rescue incidents and large-scale disasters. Team members maintain advanced training and operational readiness that allow them to deploy, often with limited notice, when communities face extraordinary circumstances requiring specialized rescue capabilities.

Following the earthquakes in Venezuela, **Battalion Chief Daniel Gamiotea, Captain Christopher Botelho, Captain Alexander Compain, and Rescue Lieutenant Michael Rowland** answered the call to serve as members of Florida Task Force II.

During their deployment, these members worked alongside other highly trained search-and-rescue professionals in support of response operations in areas affected by the earthquakes. Their deployment required them to leave their families and their regular responsibilities with little notice and operate in a challenging disaster environment while supporting communities affected by a significant natural disaster.

Their participation in this mission reflects professionalism, technical expertise, preparedness, and commitment to public service that are hallmarks of the Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department.

Although their mission took them far beyond the boundaries of the City of Sunrise, ~~August 10, 2026~~ ^{August 10, 2025} members deployed as representatives of our Department, our profession, and our community. Their willingness to use their specialized training to serve others exemplifies the highest traditions of the fire service.

The City of Sunrise extends its appreciation and congratulations to these members for their dedication, professionalism, and willingness to answer the call to serve when their specialized skills were needed.

Their service brought distinction to themselves, the Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department, and the City of Sunrise.