

Floridians,

On Thursday, I was proud to join area <u>fire chiefs</u> in Polk County to present them with a check for more than \$30,000 in pandemic protection funding to ensure they have the vital equipment, training and supplies needed to mitigate exposure to cancer-causing contaminants and other infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

Florida firefighters have been on the frontlines of the pandemic for over a year now, working every day to protect our communities while putting themselves in harm's way. As a result of their dangerous profession, these heroes are also more likely to contract cancer then you or me. This past legislative session, I fought for an increase in state funding for pandemic protections for firefighters via the agency's existing Cancer Decontamination Grant Program.

Our firefighters dedicate their lives to protect our communities and we must do everything we can to protect and support these heroes.



On Wednesday, I joined Governor DeSantis as he announced \$1K bonuses for first responders. This past year, these men and women didn't have the luxury of teleworking. Instead, they have been on the frontlines working overtime to keep Floridians safe and this funding is one way we can support and protect them.

Lastly, with <u>Mother's Day</u> this Sunday, I warned consumers looking to purchase gift cards to beware of gift card scams. Gift cards make great gifts, but they are also are a prime target for scam artists. Don't let these criminals take one cent of your hard-earned money. Knowing what to look for when it comes to fraud and scams can help prevent you and your family from falling victim to a financial scheme. Never give gift card information to a person claiming they are from the government or a business. If you believe you have been the victim of fraud, report it immediately at <u>FraudFreeFlorida.com</u>.

I hope you have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Jimmy Patronis Chief Financial Officer State of Florida Stay
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It was great to join @GovRonDeSantis as he announced \$1K bonuses for first responders. This past year, these men & women didn't have the luxury of teleworking. Instead, they have been on the frontlines working overtime to keep Floridians safe. Thank you for your support Governor!



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