

## Floridians,

On Monday evening, I had the honor of recognizing members of Florida's firefighting community for their outstanding accomplishments in the fire service industry during the <a href="2021 Fire Service Awards">2021 Fire Service Awards</a>. Florida's first responders are the backbone of our state and it was a privilege to recognize them. Throughout the pandemic, an active hurricane season, and the tragic condo collapse in Surfside, these dedicated men and women run towards unbelievable danger at a moment's notice to save lives. But it's not just the firefighters that keep us safe, it's the educators, inspectors, investigators, instructors, volunteers, and training centers that ensure we are protected – day in and day out.



Tuesday morning, I hosted the "Ringing of the Bell" ceremony to honor Florida's fallen firefighters. These firefighters answered the call for service but did not come home. They dedicated their life to their communities and paid the ultimate sacrifice. During the ceremony, 18 fallen firefighters were honored as their names were inscribed on the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial in The Florida Capitol Courtyard. May God bless these fallen heroes and their families.

Also, on Tuesday, I presented Cabinet Resolutions to members of Florida's Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces and to members of Florida's law enforcement community for their service during the tragic Champlain Towers condo collapse in Surfside, Florida. Florida was forever changed in the early morning hours of June 24, 2021 when the Champlain Towers South tragically collapsed in Surfside. In the days ahead, the law enforcement community and Urban Search and Rescue team members ran towards danger and did everything they could to help their fellow Floridians in need. I cannot thank them enough for their service to the Surfside community and the state of Florida. We owe all of these first responders that responded to the call, a deep debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice, and I proudly recognize their noble heroic efforts during this unthinkable tragedy.

This weekend, I hope you'll join us for our Unclaimed Property Auction in West Palm Beach, **Saturday**, **September 25 at 9 AM EST**. The auction will be held live and in-person at the Embassy Suites West Palm Beach, 1601 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406. For more information about the auction and items available, click <a href="here">here</a>. To search for unclaimed property or to claim an account, go online to <a href="here">www.FLTreasureHunt.gov</a>.

Sincerely,









Today, we honored Florida's firefighters who answered the call for service - but did not come home. They dedicated their life to their communities and while we can never repay them for their sacrifice, their legacy will live on forever. God bless these heroes & their families.



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