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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2 Flagler County firefighters fight western wildfires

August 27, 2018 – Two Flagler County firefighters – Ronald Titus and Justin Thomas – received deployment orders alongside other emergency personnel from Florida to help battle wildfires in the western United States.

“Our firefighters are highly motivated to help wherever they’re needed to protect lives and property,” Fire Rescue Chief Don Petito said. “They are sought after because of their specialized training, but the experience they gain on deployment will be brought back to our community. Not only does their work benefit these wildfire locations, it benefits Flagler County as well.”

Titus was originally deployed to Meeker, Colo., to serve as assistant crew boss of a 20-member team combatting the 6,000+ acre Cabin Lake Fire. This past weekend, he was demobilized from Colorado and reassigned to the Britannia Mountain Fire in Wyoming.

Thomas was deployed to Redmond, Ore., for frontline firefighting. He sent an email to Petito on Sunday morning.

“Good morning. We’re outside of Medford, Oregon. We will be working the NE side of the fire (Ramsay Canyon fire) today (Division D),” Thomas wrote. “So far we will be cutting line, cold trailing, and then assisting with hose lays. If the fire behavior stays within the lines for the next 48 hours we may be getting reassigned.”

Titus has worked for Flagler County Fire Rescue since 2011. This is his sixth deployment, and the second time he was selected for a leadership role. Thomas joined Flagler County late in 2014, and this is his second deployment.

“Keep our firefighters in your thoughts, as they provide critical assistance to these communities, County Administrator Craig Coffey said.

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