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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Flagler firefighter deploys to Oklahoma



July 3, 2018 – Flagler County Firefighter Ronald Titus won't be spending Independence Day with friends and family but will be driving across the country to help fight wildfires in Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado.

"It was short notice this time," Titus, 33, said on Tuesday shortly after getting word of deployment. "I have to leave about 4 a.m. (on the Fourth of July)."

Titus will be traveling with crew of at least 20 from the Florida Forest Service and other agencies to make the drive to Oklahoma. It is his sixth consecutive deployment.

"Firefighters continually train to be ready for these situations," Flagler County Fire Rescue Chief Don Petito said. "Ronald Titus is very motivated, and enjoys being part of these specialized teams."

Deployments are typically 17 to 21 days. Titus will receive specifics about their detail when the crew arrives at its mobilization center.

"I've been so busy getting ready to leave tomorrow," Titus said. "I know that within the last 48 hours lots of single resources have been sent to the area."

Flagler County hired Titus in January 2011.

"He exemplifies the dedication of our firefighters," County Administrator Craig Coffey said. "They serve and are committed to helping people regardless of where they live."

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