



Branson Firefighters Association

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**9th ANNUAL 2017 Branson Firefighters
Fishing Tournament**

Thank you for considering the sponsorship of our 9th Annual Branson Firefighters Fishing Tournament at Lilley's Landing on August 26th. The funds provided by you will be allocated to pay for all or part of the food costs associated with the fishing tournament. Each year the cost of lunch provided for the fishermen is around \$600. Any part of this that can be paid through your sponsorship will allow that same amount to be used in areas as described below.

This tournament funds BFFA. The association has areas that benefit firefighters, and allow them to fund divisions such as the following examples within the fire department, that can't be funded through tax payer money.

The Auxiliary is important to the operations of the firefighters during long and extended calls. They provide food and other necessities for the firefighters to hydrate and recover during operational periods lasting longer than two hours. The Auxiliary also assists with other tasks throughout the year in organizing and supplying personnel for assistance of projects and events. It is a vital part of BFFA and the fire department.

The CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) gets assistances from BFFA through equipment, materials, and other supplies not covered by grants or federal money.

The Honor Guard also receives assistance through BFFA to help with equipment and other needs such as travel expenses to events in which they participate. The Honor Guard has participated in events on the local, state and national level, having sent members to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, MD three different years. Most commonly, the Honor Guard posts colors for many local events throughout the year.

The EFFORT fund is a benevolent fund established by one of our own firefighters years ago after going through an ordeal himself with his family in Nevada. It is established first and foremost to assist local firefighters in time of need when unexpected issues come up that create a financial hardship. It has grown over the years to include assisting some city employees, ambulance, and firefighters from other departments. There are guidelines and accountability to the assistance, to make sure those who are requesting assistance, truly need it.

BFFA as an association also supports local events such as Relay for Life, back-pack club and others that our firefighters participate in. BFFA is able to help support personnel fees or other costs, and makes donations to those causes as well. MDA is also one charity that BFFA personnel participate with during the boot-block drives. BFFA also funds the yearly award banquet put on for the firefighters to award those that go above and beyond each year.

All of these are funded through donations and fundraisers, and through citizens and visitors alike, is made possible without using any tax based money.

Sincerely,

**Firefighter Heath Hudson
Branson Fire Rescue**