



**Fire Rescue Support exists to support fire rescue personnel  
before, during and after the call**

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A tragic accident occurred on Monday, April 6 that claimed the life of Officer Jared Forsyth. Our hearts are heavy for our brothers and sisters with the Ocala Police Department due to the loss of Officer Forsyth.



**In Memory of Officer Jared J. Forsyth  
Ocala Police Department  
End of Watch – April 6, 2015**

Jared graduated Lockport (NY) High School in 1999, and went on to receive his Associates in Criminal Justice. He decided to continue his education and got his Bachelors graduating in the top 10% of his class. Jared worked for the Orleans County Jail as a correctional officer, security at Rich Stadium (home of the Buffalo Bills), the art park, and many other event venues. In 2010, Jared moved to Ocala. He applied and was accepted to the basic recruit school at the College of Central Florida. He was chosen by the Academy Coordinator to serve as the Company Commander for the 158th Police Academy which graduated on November 1, 2011. Jared joined the Ocala Police Department in 2012.



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**Fire Rescue Cares**



As part of our mission of supporting fire rescue personnel, we also support those they serve. In May, Fire Rescue Support responded to five residential structure fires. These fires impacted 8 adults and 8 children.

Since fire victims are temporarily homeless and hungry, Fire Rescue Support is able to provide some financial assistance to help people take steps forward as they recover from their loss.

At these five fires, Fire Rescue Support was able to give a total of \$1,900 in assistance. This brings the total support given over the past three years to more than \$14,000! This amount represents helping 88 adults and 60 children at 44 fires.

For every \$100 you donate to Fire Rescue Support, you can help one person start putting their life back together after suffering a loss due to fire.



**CISM in Bay County**



On May 12-14, 2015, I'll be in Bay County (Southport, FL) teaching crisis intervention through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF).

I'll be offering both Individual/Peer Crisis Intervention and Group Crisis Intervention in a combined 3-day format. This plan maximizes your time by completing two 2-day classes in three days. There is also a cost savings to this plan. Normally, each 2-day courses costs \$175, but the combined 3-day format is only \$275 which includes two workbooks and two certificates.

For more details and to register, go to [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com).





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### Family Night @ The Springs



FX LIVE is coming to Church @ The Springs for a crazy family fun experience with lights, fog, and loads of action.

In a Super Bowl atmosphere, families will witness the Mama's Pajama Jump, Grandpa's Rubber Face, the Ultimate FX Live Chicken and Bone Challenge, the Gator Snot Drop and The Flying TP Blast plus much more. With music parodies of familiar tunes the whole family will enjoy, there's as much to hear as there is to see!

Tickets in advance: \$5.00 (Maximum family charge of \$20.00). Tickets at the door: \$6.00 (Maximum family charge at the door \$24.00)

For more information call the church at 352-624-0545 or go to <http://www.kidzblitz.com>.



### Pediatric drowning

On Saturday, April 25, I was alerted to a call involving a child that had fallen into a kiddie pool. I responded to the hospital where I met with crews from Ocala Engine 2, Ocala Rescue 2 and Marion County Rescue 58.

Nothing is as tragic as the death of a child and nothing impacts our crews more deeply. Yet these are the types of situations that fire rescue personnel are called to on a regular basis.

I pray that our crews would always have great wisdom and skill in the work they do. I also pray that God would shield their hearts from being overwhelmed by what they see.

### Weddings



While much of the work I do involves tragic events, there are times filled with great joy as well. Last month, I had the great privilege of officiating the weddings of three firefighters and their spouses.

Weddings give me the opportunity to connect with couples away from the stress of the job. Weddings also give me the opportunity to share my faith, as this faith provides the very foundation for a wonderful marriage.



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## **Been There; Done That**

Day in and day out, we respond to the needs of the people around us. Whether these needs are great or small, our commitment is to be there for those we serve. And as we serve, we usually stay safely distant from others, do our job and then go on with life. This is necessary for us to keep our sanity as we move in and out of the difficulties that others experience. This gap keeps us from becoming emotionally connected to every call we go on.

But every now and then we connect more deeply with those we care for. The pain they are in the midst of reminds us of the pain we once experienced. We recognize in their struggle something we have struggled with in the past.

At first, this can be quite uncomfortable. We push away to keep from becoming overwhelmed. We resist being drawn into their pain. However, there is an opportunity here; an opportunity to demonstrate care and compassion at a deep level.

It's been said that your greatest pain can be your greatest opportunity. That is, those events from your past that were among the most challenging to overcome can be the same events that you are able to best help others through. This is true because you have a sense of truly identifying with the pain of the victim; you have a deep understanding of their suffering.

You've been there and done that.

And because this is true, you have the chance to offer one of the greatest gifts possible – hope. Since you have faced the challenge, experienced the pain and overcome the difficulty you are in the best position to raise someone's expectation about their future. You see someone who is knee-deep in hurt; they see someone who was able to get back on their feet.

Let me summarize it this way: God never wastes a hurt. The depth of pain you once experienced gives you the opportunity to express a depth of care to those in need.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



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## Amazon Donates to Charity



For eligible purchases at Amazon Smile, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. You can make Fire Rescue Support your organization by [clicking here](#). Then every time you order through the Amazon Smile website you'll be helping Fire Rescue Support continue its mission of supporting fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call.

**Thank you!**

Thanks for your interest in and partnership with Fire Rescue Support. Because of you, we have the opportunity to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com) for more information or to donate. You can also find us on Facebook. And please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance personally or professionally. You can reach me at 352-425-1643 or [joe@firerescuesupport.com](mailto:joe@firerescuesupport.com).

