



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Glendale Fire Department

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November 2, 2016

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GLENDALE FIREFIGHTERS SET TO GRADUATE FROM HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING

Glendale, Ariz. — The Glendale Fire Department is adding three firefighters to its Hazardous Material Team. Firefighters T.C. Lee, Joe Librandi and Markell Williams are set to receive their certifications on Thursday, November 10, at the Phoenix Fire Training Academy Special Operations Facility.

The Hazardous Materials course requires 200 hours of intensive classroom and field training. Firefighters Lee, Librandi, and Williams learned chemistry, decontamination, how to dress in protective clothing, management of a hazardous materials scene, the use of high-tech meters and the different classifications of chemicals.

The opportunity to certify more Hazardous Materials Technicians was possible after the fire department was awarded a grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI). There were zero costs incurred by the city to bolster the Hazardous Materials Team stationed at fire station 157, located at 9658 North 59 Avenue.

There will now be a total of 58 Glendale firefighters who are Hazardous Materials Technicians.

Due to the "Automatic Aid" system in the Valley, the Glendale team could respond to incidents involving hazardous materials almost anywhere in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

The firefighters' break from school will be short-lived as all three of them were selected for Technical Rescue Training, set to start November 14.

The firefighters will begin working immediately as Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue Technicians after their TRT graduation on December 16.

For more information regarding Glendale Fire Department's Special Operations units, please visit <http://www.glendaleaz.com/fire/SpecialOps.cfm>

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