



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 17, 2013
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GLENDALE FIREFIGHTERS BECOME TECHNICAL RESCUE TECHNICIANS

Glendale, Ariz. — Two Glendale Firefighters, Kyle Port and Matt Zongas, have completed specialized training to become members of the fire department’s Technical Rescue Team. The graduates will receive their certification on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 1 p.m. at the Phoenix Fire Training Academy Special Operations Facility.

Firefighters spent five weeks of training that included 200 hours of classroom and field experience. The addition of the two trained technicians brings the Glendale Fire Department Technical Rescue Team to 45 members. All members are trained in rope rescue, tree rescue, structural collapse, trench rescue, confined space rescue and swift water rescue.

The opportunity to certify two more Technical Rescue Technicians was made 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 train the newest members of the Technical Rescue Team, who are stationed at fire station 159, located at 17159 North 63 Avenue.

Each year there are dozens of technical rescue responses in Glendale and the surrounding region. The Technical Rescue Team could be utilized to assist with incidents involving stranded hikers; victims stuck in an overflowing wash or a canal; or victims trapped in a collapsed building.

The team will enhance both the Glendale Fire Department and West Valley response for search and rescue incidents.

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