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MEDIA ADVISORY

**New Fire Sprinkler Tax Incentive for Small Business Owners to Retrofit Buildings
Will Be Announced At Station Memorial 15 Years after Tragic Fire**

February 20, 2018, 2 p.m.
(Station nightclub fire: February 20, 2003)

**WHERE: The Station Fire Memorial
211 Cowesett Ave
West Warwick, RI 02893**

WHAT: 15 years ago, a fast-moving fire at the Station nightclub killed 100 people and injured 230 in less than 5 minutes. According to a FEMA report, the Station nightclub was not equipped with a fire sprinkler system, which resulted in the inability to suppress the fire during its early stages of growth, which was one of the direct contributors to the large loss of life.

Leaders from the fire service and people who survived the Station nightclub fire will gather at the Station Memorial to announce a new federal tax incentive, part of the Tax Cuts and Job Act passage, that will allow small business owners to deduct the cost of retrofitting their buildings with fire sprinklers. This will allow coverage of a large majority of high fire risk properties such as nightclubs, places of assembly and other entertainment venues.

WHO: This event is hosted by:
Gina Russo, Chair, The Station Fire Memorial Foundation
Amy Acton, Executive Director, Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors
Vickie Pritchett, Common Voices

Speakers:
Chief Keith Bryant, U.S. Fire Administrator
Chief Frank Brown, President, Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs
Rob Feeney, Survivor, Station nightclub fire
Bill Webb, Executive Director, Congressional Fire Services Institute
Chief John Sinclair, Past-President, International Association of Fire Chiefs
Jim Pauley, President, National Fire Protection Association
Chief Ron Siarnicki, Executive Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Shane Ray, President, National Fire Sprinkler Association