



PULASKI COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

COUNTY UPDATE

Fire Funds approved for Fire Departments

By Judge Executive Marshall Todd

Somerset, Ky. (February 24, 2026) – In Pulaski County, the sound of a siren isn't background noise... it's a promise. It's the promise that when smoke curls above a neighbor's roofline, when a wreck twists metal along a rural highway, or when floodwaters creep across familiar roads, someone is on their way. And more often than not in communities like ours, that "someone" is a volunteer. Volunteer fire departments are the quiet backbone of rural America. The men and women who answer those calls leave dinner tables, ballgames, church pews, and warm beds in the middle of the night. They don't do it for a paycheck. They do it because this is their home. And the people here are their people.

But courage alone doesn't put out a fire. That's why new fire apparatus has been purchased using funds available for our volunteer fire departments. A majority of counties in Kentucky put the money collected on insurance premiums into their General Fund. That's not how it's done here in Pulaski. Those insurance premium dollars go into a fire fund and an emergency fund. In addition to the approximately \$75,000 that is distributed to each volunteer fire department in the county, Pulaski

County Fiscal Court has approved, in the last three years alone, the purchase of the following equipment for the following departments:

Dabney Fire Department-Kenworth Tandem Chassis(Tanker)... \$200,000-DELIVERED

Faubush Fire Department-Kenworth Single Axle Chassis(Tanker)... \$170,000-DELIVERED

Science Hill Fire Department-F550 Quick Attack Truck... \$409,680-DELIVERED

Mt. Victory Fire Department-F550 Quick Attack Truck... \$404,186-DELIVERED

Nancy Fire Department-Freightliner 3,000 Gallon Tanker... \$477,325-DELIVERED

Haynes Knob Fire Department-Freightliner Pumper... \$505,937-DELIVERED

Tateville Fire Department-Pumper... \$497,114-DELIVERY EXPECTED IN SPRING

That's \$2,664,242. Approved by us. Because they deserve it.

When a department relies on aging apparatus, reliability becomes a gamble. Breakdowns delay response. Outdated pumps reduce firefighting capacity. Limited storage restricts modern rescue equipment. Safety features that protect firefighters in crashes — reinforced cabs, improved braking systems, rollover protection — may be absent. Every minute lost to mechanical failure is a minute a family waits. Every equipment limitation narrows the margin for success.

Investing in new fire apparatus is not a luxury purchase. It is infrastructure. It is public safety. It is insurance that pays dividends in lives protected, property saved, and lower long-term maintenance costs. New apparatus are designed for efficiency, reliability, and firefighter safety. They meet modern standards, reduce repair expenses, and ensure compliance with evolving safety regulations. Most importantly, they allow volunteers to do their job effectively and return home safely to their own families.

There is also a message sent when a community chooses to invest in its volunteer department. It says, "*We value you.*" It says, "*Your time, your sacrifice, and your willingness to serve matter.*" Supporting these departments strengthens recruitment and retention at a time when volunteer numbers are declining nationwide. Modern equipment demonstrates that we take their mission seriously.

Ultimately, purchasing new fire trucks and equipment is about stewardship. It is about recognizing that public safety is not something we think about only when we need it or only when it's an election year. It is something we prepare for in

advance. It's about ensuring that when the siren sounds, it carries not just a promise, but the capability to keep that promise. Anybody can make a promise. For the past three years we've kept promises and righted the ship. We already made Pulaski County great. And we have some exciting news for our volunteers that will make Pulaski County even greater. Taking care of our fire departments with REAL promises and REAL results will keep it that way.

If you have any questions, you can contact this office by calling (606)678-4853.

God Bless You All, God Bless our Volunteer Firefighters, and God Bless Pulaski County.

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