



For Immediate Release
February 27, 2026

Contact: Great Minds Agency
Email: support@greatminds.agency

The Ouachita Parish Fire Department Celebrates Graduation of Newest Fire Academy Class

Ouachita Parish, LA — Ouachita Parish Fire Department (OPFD) proudly celebrated the graduation of 15 recruits from its newest Fire Academy class on the evening of February 26, 2026. Family members, friends, department leadership, and community supporters gathered to recognize the hard work, commitment, and perseverance of the recruits as they officially completed their training and prepared to begin serving the citizens of Ouachita Parish.

This year's graduating class includes: Devin Anslem, Rontrell Banks, Jamal Brown, Jeremiah Crow, Michael Freeman, Thomas Girod, Jack Hawkins, Christian McComas, Hunter McNeely, Tyler Metro, Tryston O'Neal, Samuel Regan, John Sims, Britain Smith, and Micheal Trichell.

Over the course of six months, the fire academy recruits completed rigorous instruction in fire suppression, emergency medical response, rescue operations, hazardous materials awareness, and department procedures. The program combined classroom education with hands-on, real-world training scenarios designed to prepare each graduate for the physical and mental demands of the fire service.

Fire Chief Robert Moore commended the class for their dedication and resilience throughout the academy. "Tonight marks the beginning of a lifelong commitment to service," stated Chief Moore. "These graduates have demonstrated discipline, teamwork, and a heart for this community. We are proud to welcome them to the OPFD family."

The ceremony concluded with the graduates standing together to take their oath: affirming their promise to protect life and property and to serve with integrity, courage, and honor.

OPFD extends its gratitude to the instructors, staff, and families who support the recruits throughout their journey. Their encouragement and guidance play a vital role in the success of this class. As these firefighters begin their careers, OPFD remains committed to training, professionalism, and excellence in service to Ouachita Parish.

###

About the Ouachita Parish Fire Department: *The Ouachita Parish Fire Department (OPFD) proudly serves our community under the direction of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury. The department services more than 100,000 citizens across a 600+ square mile area. With over 15,000 emergency responses annually, the department is committed to protecting lives, property, and the environment through fire suppression, rescue, EMS, prevention, hazardous material mitigation, and education. The department's dedicated personnel uphold the highest standards of service and remain deeply committed to the citizens of Ouachita Parish.*

