

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

South Carolina Fire Academy



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SC Fire Service to Honor Five Fallen Firefighters

On Wednesday, April 10, 2024, the South Carolina Fire Service will honor five firefighters who died in 2021, 2022, and 2023 while serving their communities. Also being remembered are two firefighters who died in 1881 and 1964.

The 11 a.m. ceremony will be held at the S.C. Fallen Firefighters Memorial, which is housed on the grounds of the S.C. Fire Academy, 141 Monticello Trail in Columbia.

The line of duty deaths include:

Kevin Daniel Simmons, Aiken Public Safety

Officer Simmons, 43, died in the line of duty Aug. 15, 2021. He began his career with Aiken Public Safety three months earlier on May 10, 2021, as a public safety officer in training.

Captain Kenneth "Kenny" Roy Sott, Summerville Fire Department

Captain Sott, 65, died in the line of duty Oct. 17, 2022. A member of the Summerville Fire Department with nearly 30 years of service, he also assisted with the special operations team and worked with recruits. He was also a founding member of the Summerville Fire and Rescue Dive Team and, in 2005, he joined the Firefighter Combat Challenge team. He was recognized as "Volunteer of the Year" multiple times.

Firefighter James "J" Michael Muller, Irmo Fire District

Firefighter Muller, 25, died in the line of duty May 26, 2023. He was with the Irmo Fire District for seven years and used his free time to take classes to further his craft.

Stanford "Stan" L. Wilson, Calhoun Falls Fire Department

Firefighter Wilson, 48, died March 24, 1964, in the line of duty of an apparent heart attack while helping fight a fire at an industrial plant. He had climbed a 140-foot storage silo with a hose and collapsed at the top of the structure.

Richard Moultrie, Greenville City Fire Department (Palmetto Fire Company)

Firefighter Moultrie, 30, died in the line of duty in 1881 after being injured during a Fourth of July firefighter tournament. He succumbed to his injuries the next day.