



**into
the fire**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIREFIGHTERS TELL TRUE STORIES OF HEROISM AND
HEARTBREAK IN 90-MINUTE DOCUMENTARY**

Encore Presentation of Critically-Acclaimed Film

INTO THE FIRE

Sunday, February 11 at 1pm/12CT

The History Channel®

NOVATO, Calif. (Jan. 25, 2007) – From big city engine companies to small town volunteer fire departments, “Into the Fire” takes viewers on an inspiring adventure of heartbreak and joy. This 90-minute documentary, funded and presented by Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company, captures amazing stories told first-hand by men and women firefighters who have dedicated their lives to protecting others. **The encore presentation of “Into the Fire” is February 11, 2007 at 1pm/12CT on The History Channel®.**

“Into the Fire” allows real-life firefighters to describe the daily trials and triumphs of their job, from daring urban rescues to deadly battles with massive forest fires. Introduced by actor Gary Sinise, the film offers a rare glimpse inside fire station camaraderie, detailing the humor and fierce loyalty shared by the firefighters of an engine company. While many of their stories recount the thrill of saving a life, just as many are haunted by the victims and colleagues they were unable to save. Among the film’s unforgettable participants are:

- **Tomi Rucker** (firefighter, Washington, DC): a female firefighter who recalls responding to the crash of a passenger jet into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.
- **Mike Perry** (vol. firefighter, New Auburn, WI): while working in this small Midwestern community, he speaks eloquently about the quirks of responding to local emergencies – from putting out fires to helping his neighbor’s distraught goose.

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- **Bryan Howard** (firefighter/paramedic, Los Angeles): this former high school football star was a member of the fire and rescue team responding to the Northridge earthquake of 1994 – the most costly quake in U.S. history.
- **Ray Caballero** (firefighter, Chicago): a few years ago, Caballero was severely burned during a rescue and almost died, but returned to serve the department again after a nine-month recovery.
- **Rick Smith** (firefighter, Ipswich, MA): this 20-year veteran of firefighting describes how he responded alone, due to understaffing, to a fire in which a woman and two children died.
- **Keith Walker** (firefighter, Alexandria, VA): tells a story about overcoming the odds – growing up in inner city Washington, D.C. surrounded by drugs and crime – to become a respected firefighter and community leader.
- **Gerry Shannon** (retired captain, San Francisco): this veteran firefighter describes a perilous race against time to rescue a woman trapped in a collapsed building in the aftermath of San Francisco’s 1989 earthquake.
- **Brit Rosso** (Superintendent, Arrowhead Hotshots, Kings Canyon, CA): this career firefighter has been with the U.S. Forest Service for more than 20 years. He leads a 20-person wildland firefighting crew which responds to fires across the country.

“Into the Fire” is funded and presented by Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company in an effort to raise the nation’s awareness about challenges faced by firefighters. The film is an extension of the company’s social mission to support firefighters for safer communities. Since 2004, Fireman’s Fund has donated \$10 million to more than 300 departments nationwide.

DVD

Starting February 1, the “Into the Fire” DVD will be available for purchase at www.firemansfund.com/heritage for \$14.99. For each DVD sold on the Web site, seven dollars will be directed to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation’s efforts to provide firefighters nationwide with needed equipment such as thermal imaging cameras. DVD purchasers may elect to direct a portion of this amount (\$5) to their local fire department via a drop-down menu organized by zip code.

Video-on-Demand

Check your local cable provider for availability on The History Channel video-on-demand service.

About Fireman’s Fund

Founded in 1863, Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal, commercial and specialty insurance products nationwide. Fireman’s Fund is a member of the Allianz Group (NYSE: AZ), one of the world’s largest providers of insurance and other financial services. For more information, visit: www.firemansfund.com.

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About The History Channel

The History Channel® is one of the leading cable television networks featuring compelling original, non-fiction specials and series that bring history to life in a powerful and entertaining manner across multiple platforms. The network provides an inviting place where people experience history in new and exciting ways enabling them to connect their lives today to the great lives and events of the past that provide a blueprint for the future. The History Channel has earned four Peabody Awards, three Primetime Emmy® Awards, ten News & Documentary Emmy® Awards and received the prestigious Governor's Award from the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for the network's Save Our History® campaign dedicated to historic preservation and history education. The History Channel reaches more than 91 million Nielsen subscribers. The website is located at www.History.com.

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