



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 25-115

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*

DATE: July 10, 2025

SUBJECT: FEMA Incident Support Team Deployment - Ruidoso, New Mexico

This memorandum serves to inform the City Commission of a deployment involving a member of our Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue team. Captain Kevin Galt has been formally requested to deploy with a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Incident Support Team (IST) to Ruidoso, New Mexico. This deployment is in direct response to the recent significant flooding events impacting the region. During his deployment, Captain Galt will assume the critical role of a Division/Group Supervisor. This position is vital in coordinating and overseeing emergency response operations.

Deployments of this nature are incredibly valuable for our Fire Department and the City of Fort Lauderdale. They provide our staff members with invaluable exposure to large-scale disaster response operations, allowing them to gain firsthand experience in complex incident management scenarios. Upon their return, these highly trained individuals share their enhanced knowledge, skills, and experiences with other members of our Department. This direct transfer of training and practical experience significantly strengthens our overall preparedness and response capabilities should a similar disaster occur within our city.

Note that all expenses associated with Captain Galt's deployment, including any backfill overtime required to cover his shifts, will be fully funded by FEMA. This ensures that his participation in this critical national response effort will not incur additional costs for the City of Fort Lauderdale. We are proud of Captain Galt's dedication and willingness to serve, and we are confident that his contributions will be instrumental in the recovery efforts in Ruidoso, New Mexico, while simultaneously enhancing our local emergency readiness.

Please contact Stephen Gollan, Fire Chief at sgollan@fortlauderdale.gov or (954) 828-6800 with any questions or concerns.

c: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney
David R. Soloman, City Clerk
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor
City Manager's Office
Department Directors