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## News Alert

### For Immediate Release

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### **Memorial Service & Procession Lt. Darlene Raffelson (ret.) Tumwater Fire Department**

**Tumwater, WA** — Please join us in remembering the life and service of Lieutenant Darlene Raffelson (ret.), Tumwater Fire Department. Lt. Raffelson was a mentor and friend to many during her years in the fire service.

Lt. Raffelson had a long and distinguished career in the fire service beginning in 1978. She was a paramedic at South Beach Ambulance beginning in 1990, and joined the City of Tumwater in 1999. She worked many years as a Firefighter/Paramedic on Medic 5, serving Tumwater and Thurston County. She also served as Secretary-Treasurer for Tumwater Fire Fighters IAFF Local 2409. Raffelson earned the rank of Lieutenant and served as the Department Training Officer.

Her career ended with a medical retirement in 2015, and she was later diagnosed with duty-related cancer. Lt. Raffelson passed away at her home on Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Fire Service Procession & Memorial Service with full line-of-duty death honors for Lt. Raffelson will be held:

1:00 p.m.

March 6, 2021

South Beach Christian Center

1360 WA-105, Grayland, WA 98547

The Fire Service Procession is scheduled to arrive at South Beach Christian Center at 12 noon.

Attendance is limited due to COVID restrictions. The Memorial Service will be live streamed—information about how to view the Service will be available before the Service.

Donations in memory of Darlene may be made to:

Tumwater Fire Fighters Union IAFF Local 2409  
P.O. Box 14456  
Tumwater, WA 98511

OR

South Beach Union Fire Fighters IAFF Local 3689  
PO Box 1718  
Westport, WA 98595

## **Fire Service Procession**

The Procession is open to fire apparatus and uniformed fire service members only. No private vehicles will be allowed. If your agency would like to participate, RSVP to BN Chief [Daryl Brown \(daryl.brown@sbrfa.org\)](mailto:daryl.brown@sbrfa.org), South Beach Regional Fire Authority.

## **Procession Staging Area**

Ocosta Junior - Senior High School  
2580 S. Montesano St.  
Westport, WA 98595

Due to COVID restrictions, the staging area is not open to the public.

## **Procession Schedule**

- 1000 – 1100 Procession staging area open
- 1115 Driver-only briefing with law enforcement (required)
- 1200 Procession scheduled to arrive at South Beach Christian Center
- 1300 Memorial Service begins

## **Procession Route**

Traffic congestion is expected in the area of the Procession, more information about the route and traffic control will be available before the Service.

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