



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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***Downtown Houston firefighters thanked for protecting
thousands of downtown employees***
**Houston's largest fire station receives donation,
adopted by Devon Energy**

Firefighters at Fire Station 8 regularly respond to calls to help protect the 150,000 people who work downtown. Devon Energy and city officials thanked firefighters this holiday season for their service.

Devon, the largest U.S.-based independent oil and gas producer, contributed \$5,000 to the largest fire station in Houston as part of the "Adopt a Fire Station" program. The contribution will be used to purchase amenities for the station to make the firefighters' living quarters more comfortable. Devon employs about 1,500 people in Houston who office downtown at Two Allen Center .

"We are very grateful for the brave work of these firefighters to keep our employees and our downtown neighbors safe every day," said Tony Vaughn, senior vice president for Devon 's Gulf Division. "The firefighters respond to calls when most needed, as they did during Hurricane Ike this year, and we appreciate their heroic efforts."

Fire Station 8, located at 1919 Louisiana , is the biggest station in HFD and consists of eight bays and living accommodations for 25 firefighters. The new station went into service April 2008 and houses a shift commander, district chief, command van, two engines and two ambulances.

"Our members truly appreciate the community's support and are very thankful for those who help by adopting their station," said Fire Chief Phil Boriskie.

Other local officials joined Devon in thanking firefighters for their service. City of Houston Council Member James Rodriguez represents District I, which includes the downtown area.

"HFD firefighters put their lives on the line everyday," said Council Member James Rodriguez. "We, as a community, are committed to help them continue to be the most effective first responders. I applaud Devon for their contribution, and encourage others to support the life-saving service these firefighters provide."

About the Adopt-A-Fire Station Program

The Adopt-A-Fire Station Program was created to give citizens and civic,

professional and business groups a formal vehicle by which they may make tangible donations to the fire stations of their choice. Its purpose is similar to other city programs whereby such groups are permitted to adopt parks and esplanades. The program does not replace the city's established fire station restoration program currently administered by the General Services Department. Rather, it serves as a supplement. Citizens, groups and other entities wishing to find out how they can adopt their neighborhood HFD Station, may visit the HFD website at www.houstonfire.com and look under "community activities," or contact the HFD Public Affairs Office at 713-495-7900.



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