



## HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE MEDIA ALERT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2010

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### **Firefighters from Across the Country Trek Nearly Half-way Across the U.S. in Honor of Two Fallen Houston Firefighters**

When nearly 30 firefighters from as far away as Naples, Florida, Boston, Massachusetts and San Francisco, California meet for the fourth annual Brotherhood ride, they will ride in memory of fallen Houston Firefighters, Captain Jim Harlow and Firefighter Damion Hobbs.

Both men died last Easter Sunday morning while battling a house fire in which it was reported that people were trapped. Captain Harlow was a 30 year veteran of the Houston Fire Department. Firefighter Hobbs was making his very first fire.

The fourth annual Brotherhood Ride will begin April 1st in Tallahassee, Florida. The riders pedal across the Southeastern, United States in ten days and over 850 miles. The ride will culminate at Houston Fire Station 26, located at 7111 Dixie Drive on April 10th.

Four riders from Houston are participating in the ride including Rescue Chief Robert Branch, Engineer/Operator Mike Cruz, Firefighter Mike Havlice and Firefighter Mike Flanagan. The crew will depart from Houston at 7 a.m., Wednesday, March 31st at 7:00 a.m. They will be available for interviews between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., Wednesday March 31st, 2010.

For more information on the ride, click on [brotherhoodride.com](http://brotherhoodride.com)

**What:** Houston Firefighters depart Houston to join colleagues from around the nation in a ride dedicated to two Houston Firemen who died while battling an Easter Morning blaze of a year ago.

**Who:** District Chief Robert Branch, Engineer Operation Mike Cruz, Firefighter Eddie Havlice, Firefighter Mike Flanagan

**When:** Wednesday, March 31st, 2010, 6:30 a.m.

**Where:** Fire Station 26, 7111 Dixie Drive

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