



Marion County Board of County Commissioners Marion County Fire Rescue

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MCFR LIEUTENANT VOLUNTEERS TO TREAT INJURED IN HAITI

Immediate Release

****Please be advised: Lieutenant Nowery will be available for media photos/interviews on Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Please coordinate with MCFR's Public Information Officer for an alternative time if this doesn't work for your operation.****

- WHO:** Marion County Fire Rescue Lt. Mark Nowery
- WHAT:** Interview and photo opportunity with Lt. Nowery as he describes his volunteer effort to mend the wounds and hearts of Haiti.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010 ▪ 10 a.m.
- WHERE:** Marion County Fire Rescue Rainbow Springs Station 22 (19995 SW 86th St., Ste. 001, Dunnellon)
- WHY:** Nine days after a devastating earthquake shocked the country of Haiti into disarray, Marion County Fire Rescue Lt. Mark Nowery responded to Fermanthe, Haiti, to help bring relief to the wounded. "It was absolutely incredible," said Nowery. "As we landed, the runway was lined with tents from all over the world; it looked like a battle zone."

Working in conjunction with Samaritan's Purse (an international relief agency), Nowery teamed up with a special orthopedic team of surgeons, family practice doctors and nurses, serving as the only emergency responder on the team. "People were being flown in by helicopter and others lined up outside the hospital," Nowery said. "Some waited eight hours just to get inside."

Assigned to wound care, Nowery cleaned infections and injuries for patients before and after their operations. During his two-week stay in Haiti, Nowery worked 14-hour shifts and estimates he personally took care of more than 120 patients and delivered four children. Altogether the team performed more than 1,000 operations.

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