

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF THE WASHINGTON STATE PATROL:

These individuals standing before you today joined this class with one goal in mind - to become Washington State firefighters. As a team, they have achieved that goal. Having succeeded, they are found worthy to carry on the proud tradition of the Washington State Fire Service.

These new firefighters have completed twelve weeks of rigid and demanding classroom, practical, and physical training at the Washington State Fire Training Academy. Their newly learned skills and abilities will assist them in fulfilling the mission of the fire service - saving lives and property.

The Fire Training Academy is very proud of these individuals who have worked so hard and dedicated themselves to become Washington State firefighters. Their success could not have been achieved without the support, encouragement, and sacrifice of their families and loved ones.



WASHINGTON STATE FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY **GRADUATION** **OF** **RECRUIT ACADEMY** **2026-02**



"26-02, NO BAD DAYS"

JULY 24, 2026
ENUMCLAW, WA



WASHINGTON STATE FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY

COMPANY OFFICER:

JBLM Fire/EMS:

Lucas Walker

RECRUITS:

Burlington Fire Department:

Conner Rushing *

Kittitas County Fire District #7:

Logan Scharnickel *

Camas-Washougal Fire Department:

Dannon Hausler *

Russell Mitchell *

Mount Vernon Fire Department:

Brandon Nelson *

JBLM Fire/EMS:

Donovan Blas *

John Prater *

Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue:

Daniel Betcher *

Chloe Narolski *

Christian Taylor *

Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue:

Nick Jones *

South Thurston Fire & EMS:

Brian Preza *

* DENOTES CLASS LEADER

INTRODUCTION:

Chad Cross,

Washington State Fire Marshal

GUEST SPEAKER:

Aaron Lowe

Kittitas County Fire District #7

Fire Chief

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Kelly Merz,

Fire Training Academy

Commander

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS:

Mollie Sundvik

Fire Training Academy

Program Chief

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Chaplain Bridget Winters

RECRUIT PRESENTATIONS:

Class Speech: Brian Preza

Class Plaque: Nick Jones

Class Video: Daniel Betcher

INSTRUCTOR APPRECIATION

AWARD:

Brian Smith,

Fire Training Academy

Chief of Instruction

BENEDICTION:

Chaplain Bridget Winters

DISMISSAL:

Mollie Sundvik

Fire Training Academy

Program Chief

AWARD PRESENTATIONS:

Mollie Sundvik,

Fire Training Academy

Program Chief

