



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
Public Information Office

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Media Advisory

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**San Francisco Fire Department Women's Group
Presents Check for Firefighter Cancer Studies**

On Thursday, February 23, 2012, the United Fire Service Women (UFSW), a group of female San Francisco Firefighters advocating for women in the Fire Service, will be presenting a check for nearly \$13,000 to the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation to help fund studies being done on Firefighter Cancers.

The number of women with more than 20 years in the fire service is now significant enough that they believe it would be beneficial for them to be subjects of a focus group for studies on women in the fire service that are being diagnosed with cancers.

Statistic: 1.4% of women in the general population, age 40-49, are diagnosed with Breast Cancer.
In the San Francisco Fire Department that number currently stands at 13.6%.

Witnessing one woman after another receive this diagnosis, the women's group decided to get proactive in funding the SF Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation so the studies that they are currently doing can be continued and even expanded. With the support of the Chief of Department, Joanne Hayes-White and Mayor Ed Lee, the group printed SFFD t-shirts for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and sold them, raising nearly \$13,000 to benefit this very important research.

The SF Cancer Prevention Foundation, founded by a former San Francisco Firefighter who was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, has been screening San Francisco Firefighters for various cancers for the last several years. Prevention, early detection and patient advocacy are the primary goals of the Foundation.

**WHAT: United Fire Service Women Check Presentation
to the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 23, 2012
10:30 AM**

**WHERE: San Francisco Fire Department Headquarters
698 2nd Street**

**CONTACT: Tony Stefani, San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation
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