



## Jupiter Fire Rescue Department Update

The Town of Jupiter is excited to be implementing the Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD), and wants to continue to keep residents informed as plans move forward.

Many of you have probably been approached by individuals canvassing at shopping centers and public spaces. Unfortunately, this campaign, funded by the union that represents Palm Beach County firefighters ([Local IAFF 2928](#))



and the [political action committee \(PAC\) that is representing them](#), contains several pieces of false and inaccurate information. In many cases, the people staffing these locations, hired by the union and their PAC, are not from the area. They often don't have good, working knowledge of the situation and are frequently armed with inaccurate information.

To help you navigate the issue, the Town is maintaining a webpage at [jupiter.fl.us/firerescue](http://jupiter.fl.us/firerescue). In addition to regular updates via email and social media, we will post helpful information, documentation, and updates on the implementation of the new department on this page.

Below are some common myths and facts that we are hearing around Town. As always, we encourage residents to do their own research, reach out to the Town with questions, and attend public meetings and forums where you can form your own opinion on the issues that impact your community. The next Town Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00 pm**. If you're interested but unable to attend, join us on the livestream at [jupiter.fl.us/Live](http://jupiter.fl.us/Live).

Myth	Fact
The Town is closing existing fire stations (Stations 16, 18 and 19).	The stations that are currently in the Town will remain open. The Town owns Station 16 on Military Trail in Abacoa, which is currently operated by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR). In 2026, when JFRD begins operations, JFRD will operate that station. The County has indicated in correspondence to their employees that they intend to continue operating Stations 18 and 19.
The Town of Jupiter "fired" Palm Beach County firefighters.	PBCFR firefighters and paramedics are employees of Palm Beach County. The Town does not

	<p>employ them, and therefore cannot fire them. In the current interlocal agreement between Palm Beach County and the Town for fire rescue services, the County required a 36-month cancellation clause. The Town exercised its right to terminate the contract in accordance with that contract.</p>
<p>JFRD will not have “backup” when additional support or units are needed at an incident.</p>	<p>It is common practice in the fire and emergency services industry to have what are known as Mutual Aid Agreements between neighboring and partner agencies. These agreements are typically reciprocal, meaning both agencies involved provide aid to the other when there is a need. In fact, PBCFR has mutual aid agreements with several municipal fire departments today. JFRD will work with municipal agencies like Palm Beach Gardens, Tequesta, and North Palm Beach to provide and receive mutual aid. Likewise, JFRD will work cooperatively with PBCFR to establish a mutual aid agreement, which will result in more coverage and stations in the Jupiter area than there are today.</p>
<p>The JFRD will be staffed only with new, unproven firefighters.</p>	<p>Jupiter is a great place to live, and the Town is a great place to work. When recruiting begins, the Town expects that Jupiter’s combination of compensation, benefits, community and quality of life will be very attractive to both veteran and newer firefighters.</p>
<p>The Town of Jupiter violated state purchasing laws by only getting a bid from one vendor in purchasing its fire engines.</p>	<p>The Town of Jupiter used a state contract, the Florida Sheriff’s Association State Cooperative Contract No. FSA2-VEF17.0, to purchase its fire engines. This contract has gone through the proper bidding process following state laws, the Town’s purchasing policy, and is available for any municipality in the state to use, or “piggyback.” The Town of Jupiter took the extra step to evaluate each of the vendors listed within this contract to assess which vendor’s apparatus met all of the qualifications identified by the Town.</p>
<p>The Jupiter Town Council voted to end all fire services within the Town boundaries.</p>	<p>Between now and September 30, 2026, PBCFR will continue to provide service within Jupiter’s Town boundaries per the interlocal agreement between the Town and Palm Beach County. On October 1, 2026, the JFRD will begin operations and will provide fire and EMS services to the Town of Jupiter. There will be no interruption of fire services.</p>

<p>A smaller, municipal fire department cannot provide the same level of service of a larger fire department.</p>	<p>Smaller fire departments can and do provide outstanding levels of service every day. In fact, 80 percent of Palm Beach County's coastal population is served by a municipal fire department. One example of where smaller departments can provide high levels of service is in response times. In Palm Beach County, smaller departments excel in providing rapid responses to emergency calls, often faster than the responses provided by larger departments. Several smaller departments in Palm Beach County also hold the ISO Class 1 rating, which rates a department's ability to protect its community. JFRD will strive to excel in all areas to provide the highest level of service to Jupiter's residents.</p>
---	---