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## Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1 Celebrating 100th Anniversary

## With Celebratory Parade Along Main Street On August 24th

**Old Saybrook, CT** – The Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1, Inc. will celebrate 100 years of volunteer service with a gala parade along Main Street starting at 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> featuring numerous fire departments along with contingents of marching firefighters from across the state.

"We're very proud of our 100 years of dedicated service to the town of Old Saybrook and surrounding communities and we want to celebrate this momentous anniversary with a very public and very celebratory parade down Main Street," said Chief of Department Joseph Johnson. "Everyone's invited to the parade to help us celebrate this major milestone for our fire company," he said. (In the event of inclement weather, the parade will be held the following day on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 4 p.m.)

Surrounding area fire departments as well as many others across the state have been invited to participate in the parade. "The support we've received for our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our parade has been very strong and it's a real tribute to the dedication and hard work that hundreds of volunteers have shown since our fire company was first established in 1924," he said. "One hundred years of continuous all-volunteer service to the town of Old Saybrook is truly amazing," he added.

The public parade will start at 4 p.m. at the head of Main Street in Old Saybrook and then proceed down Main Street and end at the headquarters of the Old Saybrook Fire Department at 310 Main Street.

The Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1 was founded as a volunteer organization in 1924 and has continuously changed to meet the needs of our community. In 1924, the population of Old Saybrook was around 1,500 people and the newly formed fire department consisted of one fire engine, donated by Finley J. Shepard, a former resident of Old Saybrook, and 33 members who pledged their time to protect Old Saybrook from the threat of fire.

Today, 100 years later the Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1 has a total of 80 volunteers who consist of active Officers, Firefighters, Probationary Firefighters, Junior Firefighters, and Fire Police/Support Members. One thing that has consistently remained the same for the past 100 years is our unwavering mission: to protect life, property, and the environment by providing the dynamic services of our volunteer fire organization 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For more information about the Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1, its firefighters and its officers as well as its proud history of volunteer service to Old Saybrook and beyond, please visit <u>oldsaybrookfire.com</u>.