**To: ALL RESIDENTS & STAFF**

**From: ANDREW DUJON, President/Chief Executive Officer**

**RE: Mount Dora Fire Department, Resident & Staff Appreciation, & More**

**Date: April 24, 2025**

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well! This week, we had the privilege of having Chief Joe Hightower speak at various events regarding the Mount Dora Fire Department (MDFD). He shared the following regarding a fire within a multistory building:

In the event of a fire in a multistory building, if you can safely exit down the stairs and out of the building, you may do so. If you need the elevator to get down to ground level, shelter in place. Each multistory building is sprinkled, allowing you to shelter in place. You can try going out on your balcony if the noise is too much.

The Chief also shared that the MDFD is 1 of 326 fire departments worldwide to be certified. We are very fortunate to have such a strong team serving our community.

Today, we celebrated the resident volunteers. Over 130 of you are volunteering across various departments, and your efforts are greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, we did miss several names of those who actively volunteer, and Emma Stockman has made a list to contact each of you and provide a token of our appreciation. If you are a volunteer here at Waterman Village and were not recognized, please accept our apologies and reach out to Emma at your earliest convenience.

We have also been celebrating the employees of Waterman Village this week for Employee Appreciation Week. Thanks to the coordinated hard work of Kendra Criss, Emma Stockman, and several others, employees and residents have been engaged in festivities like TV/Movie Character Day, Sports Day, and Luau Day. We will have a community BBQ tomorrow, which will be a great time to engage with each other. These ladies have also garnered the support of numerous sponsors from the community, like Advent Health, UF Health, Hillcrest Insurance, Cornerstone, and Mazenko Law, to contribute to this celebration. We are very grateful for their support. Residents have asked me if they could contribute to these festivities, and I remind them that your contributions to the Employee Fund are the perfect way to show your appreciation.

We held our quarterly Town Hall meeting yesterday, and there were several great questions. The minutes from this meeting will be released shortly, and the recording should be aired no later than next week. I want to follow up on a comment I made yesterday about Hospice. I was quite flippant, and I was not trying to belittle the wonderful services Hospice provides. If I offended anyone with my comments, I sincerely apologize.

Have an excellent weekend!