



City of Branson

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MEDIA RESPONSE

Sentencing of Southwest Missouri Volunteer Firefighter Nicholas Dickerson

Branson, MO – In response to a release from the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri earlier this week, the City of Branson would like to clarify information provided in that release.

The report refers to a “former Branson emergency medical technician and firefighter.” Nicholas James Dickerson was sentenced Tuesday by U.S. District Court Judge M. Douglas Harpool to 21 years and 10 months in federal prison without parole for child pornography that was produced in his living quarters at a fire station.

The City of Branson wants to note that Dickerson served as a volunteer firefighter for the Western Taney County Fire Protection District (WTCFPD). His actions allegedly took place in a WTCFPD fire station. The referenced fire district provides fire rescue services to the western one-third of Taney County *excluding the incorporated* city limits of Branson. The City of Branson provides fire-rescue services to its residents and visitors from three fire stations staffed with career fire personnel within the incorporated city limits of Branson.

“Both the City of Branson and the Western Taney County Fire Protection District provide excellent fire-rescue services,” stated Branson Fire Chief Ted Martin. “It is unfortunate that one individual’s personal decision to engage in deplorable behaviors like this tend to reflect poorly on the great service provided by career and volunteer firefighters across our nation,” added Martin.

“Our city leadership is focused on providing great fire-rescue services to our residents and visitors,” stated Branson Communication Manager Jennifer Langford. “We wish to clarify this offender was not affiliated with, employed by, nor living in a fire station operated by the City of Branson,” stated Langford.

For more information about the City of Branson, visit www.BransonMO.Gov and follow @CityofBranson on Twitter for regular news and updates. For immediate inquiries related to this content, contact Jennifer Langford, City of Branson Communications Manager at JLangford@BransonMO.gov.

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About the City of Branson, Missouri:

Located in Southwest Missouri, the City of Branson is committed to its citizens and to those who visit here, to ensure a safe and environmentally sound community. We will work as a team to maintain and promote the growth of our City, and to provide professional, courteous service to all through fair and open communication. We look to tomorrow, remembering yesterday, dedicated to excellence today.