



NEWS RELEASE – Photo Op

Date: November 13, 2007
Release: Immediately
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Portland Area Firefighters to Compete in Annual Hockey Charity Game

This weekend local Portland area firefighters will square up against Seattle firefighters in a hockey battle. The charity hockey game will take place on Saturday, November 17, at 1 pm at Portland Memorial Coliseum. Tickets cost \$10 and proceeds go to the Oregon Burn Center. Tickets to the firefighters' charity game will also get you into that night's hockey game between the Portland Winter Hawks and Kelowna Rockets. Tickets can be purchased at the gate before the game begins.

The bi-annual battle began in July 2004 when Portland Fire & Rescue firefighter Monte Schierling formed the Portland Firefighters Hockey Club (PFHC) and they travelled to Seattle to compete against the Seattle Fire Hockey Club. The two teams split wins that weekend and it's been a passionate rivalry ever since. The battle—now titled the Golden Skate Charity Hockey Game—has been going strong for three years now with the teams exchanging victories back and forth on the ice. The game now also includes a coveted trophy—a gold-painted retired hockey skate mounted on a piece of wood—and support to local charities. This weekend's battle will benefit the Oregon Burn Center.

The PFHC team includes 31 firefighters from throughout the region including Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (4), Portland Fire & Rescue, Hillsboro Fire Department, Clackamas County Fire District 1, and others. Portland Firefighter and PFHC Team Captain Monte Schierling states, "There's something special about the brotherhood of the fire service and when you combine our passion for firefighting with our passion for hockey, it makes the Golden Skate Charity Hockey Game an extraordinary event."

Photo and Interview Opportunity: Prior to Saturday's charity event, the two teams will meet up on Friday at 6:15 pm for a game at the Valley Ice Arena at 9250 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway in Beaverton. Media may show up before that time on Friday for photos and/or interviews.

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