

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Ron Hopson for being selected as the Pearl Fire Department Firefighter of the Month in December. Ron began his career at the PFD on January 5, 1998 and has been promoted through the ranks during the 20 year span. Ron has documented over 1500 training hours at the MS Fire Academy including Fire Inspector and Fire Officer. Ron is also a certified CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and BLS/ALS (Basic/Advanced Life Support) Care Instructor. In addition to his position at the PFD, Ron is also a Critical Care Flight Paramedic at UMMC -Helicopter Transport (AirCare). Ron is a Pearl High School graduate and attended Holmes Community College, and completed the Paramedic Program in 2009. He is married to Brandi Pettit Hopson and they have 2 children, Tate and SarahBrooks.

Ron's nomination for this award came from Major Heath Morgigno, Joint Forces Headquarters Detachment Commander, MS Army National Guard:

I am writing you to let you know the impact that one of Pearl Fire Department's finest had on potentially saving a young man's life in Clinton, MS on August 26, 2018. Deputy Chief Ron Hopson and I have children on the same soccer team. We played in a tournament in Clinton last month. The heat index for that day was well over 100 degrees and a young referee was suffering from a heat stroke moments before Chief Hopson arrived at the Clinton Soccer Complex. The Clinton Fire Department (CFD) was already on scene but I immediately told Ron what the situation was prior to him getting there. After he and I were discussing the situation we could hear the CFD officers' frustration with the lack of a response from the local ambulance service to their phone calls and nearest unit to respond. Chief Hopson immediately offered his assistance knowing all too well how long wait times affect the survivability of patients in the field. His presence and professionalism had an immediate impact on the entire scene. He was not only able to assist in the situation, but he was instrumental in getting an Air Care flight brought in within minutes. Chief Hopson is a great example of how our home town heroes extend their influence throughout the Metro area and state. The critical minutes that Chief Hopson was able to provide this young referee proved to be critical in his survival and recovery.

I am thankful that we have some of the best and brightest that the state has to offer, right here in Pearl, MS. Deputy Chief Ron Hopson has been a longtime contributor to our community and our emergency services. Please consider this letter as a recommendation for an award or recognition for Chief Hopson.

The Pearl Chamber of Commerce presented Ron with a framed certificate, a \$100 Bass Pro Shops Gift Card, a Cracker Barrel Gift Basket with a meal for two, an engraved Yeti can holder, 2 dozen cookies from Subway and a Fit Bit. Moss Creek Fish House donated a \$30 Gift Card; The Pearl Municipal Credit Union donated a \$25 Visa Gift Card; McAlister's Deli donated 2 complimentary meals; Frisco Deli donated a free meal; Eclipse Nutrition donated 5 free shakes and Revell Hardware donated a camo stainless steel tumbler. [Heath Morgigno Ron Hopson](#)