

Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza News

Issue 8
September 2023

The Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza is a place of tribute to Fallen Fire Chief David Campbell combined with a memorial wall sharing the names of all Portland Firefighters who have given their lives in service. The public plaza will be a place of remembrance, reflection, and interpretation of the vigilance of Portland Fire & Rescue's service to Portland.

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Dates of Importance

September 11, 2023

This is a day of remembrance for one of the worst tragedies of our nation's history. Thousands died in the attack on the World Trade Center buildings in New York City. Among them, 343 Firefighters would lose their lives. Against all odds, they carried out their duties.

SPECIAL EDITION ON VANDALISM

The David Campbell Memorial Association is saddened to report a truly egregious crime against Portland Citizens and Portland Firefighters, both past and present.

On September 6th, severe damage to the David Campbell Memorial was discovered. Vandals destructively removed the commemorative name plates on the floor of the Memorial and stole 6 of the brass pieces. A seventh was left behind and an eighth was severely damaged in an effort to pry it from the floor. Along with it,

the 95 year old limestone floor was significantly damaged. Other features of the Memorial were also attacked. It isn't known exactly when this happened. A spate of graffiti was also tagged onto the Memorial walls, which may have been done at the same time or maybe separately.

We ask that anyone having any information or perhaps surveillance video to please contact Portland Police, the Portland Firefighters Association (503-774-4302) or the David Campbell Memorial Association.



www.DavidCampbellMemorial.org

"David Campbell Memorial Association" on Facebook

A Significant Crime

The damage done to the David Campbell Memorial is the most severe in memory. This is not normal vandalism nor theft. In fact, the Oregon Revised Statutes contain a special section titled “Abuse Of A Memorial To The Dead” (ORS 166.076), which calls out crimes against memorials, cemeteries, and tributes to the dead. It labels the crime a Class A Misdemeanor and a court can assess a maximum fine of \$50,000. Those that engage in this behavior likely have an inability to pay but can receive other penalties. It is likely this same person has imposed damage in other parts of the community. Please be watchful for other problems in and around the Memorial and report them if you can. On a lighter note, the David Campbell Memorial Association has been working hard to generate the plans and concept for the site moving forward and we hope to have images to share in the next newsletter. At this time, our priority is addressing the damage to the Memorial. Thank you for your patience and

support as we continue to create The Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza to pay homage to Portland’s Fallen Firefighters .



To Learn More...

The development of the Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza continues to grow and evolve. You can find additional information on the “David Campbell Memorial Association” Facebook Page. This also includes ways in which you can support this project and bring honor, recognition, and remembrance to all of Portland’s Fallen Firefighters.

The David Campbell Memorial Association web site is another source of information. Find it at DavidCampbellMemorial.org. And to speak to a member of the David Campbell Memorial Association, contact Don Porth, President, 503-805-8482 or Don@PreventThink.com



**DAVID CAMPBELL
MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION**