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DATE: 09/26/2013

SUBJECT: Enger Tower to be Illuminated red in Recognition of Fallen Firefighter Memorial Day

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

Enger Tower to be Illuminated red in Recognition of Fallen Firefighters Memorial Day

[Duluth, MN] - Fallen firefighters across Minnesota will be honored Sunday, September 29, 2013 in a memorial service at the State Capitol in St. Paul, marking the first anniversary of *Minnesota Fallen Firefighters Memorial Day*. Last year the newly installed Minnesota Fallen Firefighters Memorial was dedicated on the State Capitol grounds honoring the 208 firefighters that have lost their lives in the line of duty in our state. Families of 102 firefighters were located and recognized during the ceremony for their family member's service. Fire departments across Minnesota continue to search for families of fallen firefighters not yet honored.

During this year's memorial service, families of fallen firefighters who haven't yet been honored in a public ceremony will receive a Minnesota State flag (previously flown over the State Capital). The family of Duluth Fire Captain William Mayhew will be one of the five families honored at this year's service. Captain Mayhew died on July 16th 1953 from injuries sustained from a fire at Allen's Shoe Store located at 125 West Superior St. Captain Mayhew's granddaughter, Gayle Blatnik, will be in attendance to recognize and remember him.

The City of Duluth will illuminate Enger Tower red this weekend, Friday night through Sunday night, in honor of its fallen firefighters as well as firefighters across the state. In addition, churches across the state will be ringing their church bells Sunday just before 2 p.m. marking the start of the firefighter memorial service in St. Paul.

Media with questions may contact Fire Chief John Strongitharm at (218) 730-4390.

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