

Johnson County Fire Protection District

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Chief Larry W. Jennings Assistant Chief Dee Bennett Board President Mark Lenger Board Vice President Aaron Collett Board Member Scott Hackler Secretary/Treasurer Mackenzie Schuette

NEWS RELEASE - Saturday, March 8, 2025

Johnson County Fire Protection District Announces Line of Duty Death

WARRENSBURG, MO – It is with deep sorrow that the Johnson County Fire Protection District announces the line of duty death of Captain Vernon Collett.

Captain Collett collapsed this afternoon while actively fighting a natural cover fire. Despite nearly an hour of lifesaving efforts at the scene, he was tragically declared deceased.

Captain Collett dedicated 29 years of service to the Johnson County Fire Protection District.

We extend our deepest condolences to Captain Collett's family, friends, and colleagues. We ask that the community keep them in their thoughts during this difficult time.

Additional information will be released when available.

<Photograph Included>

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For more information contact:

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