

# COUNTY OF YORK

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 17, 2025  
**TO:** York County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Brian P. Fuller, Deputy County Administrator *BF*  
**SUBJECT:** Commendation of Employees

On Sunday, Captain James Scruggs and former Dockhand Cole Henderson were bringing a boat into the Whitehouse Cove Marina. Upon docking the boat, Captain Scruggs and Mr. Henderson noticed the smell of burning plastic, black smoke, and fire coming from the boat dock underneath the shelter. After calling 911, Captain Scruggs utilized his fire extinguishers and turned off the shore power to prevent the fire from spreading further. Captain Scruggs and Mr. Henderson also ran to multiple boats within the marina to ensure that no individuals were sleeping and unaware of the fire and potential dangers associated with it spreading.

Poquoson Fire Department arrived on the scene and extinguished the fire. One of the Firefighters who responded was Steven Katona, a part-time dockhand in York County. Due to the heroic actions of Captain Scruggs and former Dockhand Cole Henderson, further damage was prevented in adjacent boats and homes close to the scene. Poquoson Fire Department posted a story to their social media page regarding the fire. The link may be viewed below, but a Facebook account is required to access the video.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?mibextid=wwXIfr&v=620861300466645&rdid=GBquGBf3AzmxMVZw>

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