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LaGrange Firefighters Injured in Labor Day Fire Speak About Recovery & Community Support

LaGrange, Ga. October 19, 2018 – The four LaGrange firefighters injured in a Labor Day structure fire are speaking out about their recovery and community support.

Pete Trujillo, Jordan Avera, Jon Williamson and Josh Williams received major burn injuries Labor Day September 3rd in a structure fire on Revis Street.



Pictured from left to right: Josh Williams, Jordan Avera, Jon Williamson, & Pete Trujillo. Each received letters from Auburn Head Coach Gus Malzahn and Georgia Head Coach Kirby Smart wishing them a speedy recovery.

Josh Williams was released from the hospital October 9th and was the final firefighter released from the hospital. He received burns to roughly 34% of his body.

“I spent two days at Grady Hospital and 38 days in Augusta,” said Williams. “While I was in Augusta, the Augusta Fire Department checked in on my family every day. It’s been unreal the support we received from not only our local community but other communities as well.”

Pete Trujillo received burns to 25% of his body and spent seven days in the hospital.

“The love and support we’ve received is unreal,” Trujillo said. “I want to thank everybody from Atlanta down to Florida. It’s incredible.”



The four injured firefighters spoke to the media Friday

Jon Williamson received burns to 16% of his body and had five surgeries.

“We’re all doing a lot better and we’re just grateful to be here,” said Williamson. “A lot of people from the community just poured into us and made sure we were okay on a daily basis. We had visitors come see us constantly and it made time go by a lot better. Thank you.”

Jordan Avera started back to work on light duty Monday, October 8th. “To see firsthand the amount of people who showed up to all of the

benefits raising money for us, it's just eye-opening," said Avera. "For us to see how well we are loved. It's pretty awesome."

LaGrange, Troup, and West Point firefighters continue to host fundraisers to help raise money for the four firefighters.

Public Safety Chief Lou Dekmar "We are all grateful for their progress and for the outstanding support we continue to receive from our



Public Safety Chief Lou Dekmar talks to Williams, Avera, Williamson, & Trujillo

community," said Public Safety Chief Lou Dekmar. "It's clear the thoughts and prayers of many are reflected in their recovery. It's also clear their attitude, fitness, training and the excellent care provided by their medical team have played a significant role in overcoming very serious

injuries."

When asked if they had second thoughts about going back to work, all four agreed they are ready to get back to work.

"I miss it," said Trujillo. "I can't wait to get back," said Williamson.

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