

Copper River donates to help injured Fresno Fire capt.

By Michael Olinger
molinger@fresnobee.com

Copper River Country Club will be donating \$14,000 to the Fresno Fire Department on behalf of Fresno Fire Capt. Pete Dern on Thursday afternoon.

The check will be presented at Fresno Fire Station 17 at 1 p.m. Thursday and marks another in a long line of donations made on behalf of Dern, a 25-year veteran of the department, since March 29, when he suffered second- and third-degree burns after falling through a roof in central Fresno while fighting a two-alarm house fire.

Since the accident, fundraising efforts have generated more than \$186,000 in support for Dern, including \$168,975 raised through the crowd-sourcing website YouCaring.com, \$4,000 from the Fresno Senior Softball League, and the \$14,000 that the Copper River Country Club is donating.

People also have been donating blood on behalf of Dern, most recently at the Paws for Pints blood drive held by the Central California Animal Disaster Team and the Valley's animal rescue community on June 6.

Michael Olinger: [\(559\) 441-6141](tel:(559)441-6141)