



## ***News Release***

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### **Branson firefighter to Haiti for relief efforts**



Captain Chris Morgan of the Branson Fire Department left for Haiti over the weekend as part of an area medical team to assist in the relief efforts of the earthquake ravaged country.

Morgan is a part-time/volunteer worker with the local Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT). He, along with six other DMAT members will be spending the next two weeks in Haiti caring for the hundreds of thousands of people displaced by the massive earthquake earlier this month.

DMATs are a national disaster resource with several units located throughout each state. They are equipped through the Department of Homeland Security with field hospitals, medicine and surgical supplies. DMATs are staffed mostly with local volunteer doctors, nurses and emergency medical personnel as well as support staff for maintenance and other items.

According to Branson Fire Chief Carl Sparks, the local DMAT has been on standby the past week for possible deployment to Haiti. Last Thursday evening, the team received official notification to deploy, and they left Saturday.

“Our thoughts and prayers go with Chris and the rest of the team as they lend their assistance in this catastrophic event,” said Sparks.