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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**  
**Date:** November 5, 2017

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### **BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD PRESENTS COLORS AT BANK OF AMERICA STADIUM**

BURLINGTON, NC— Six Burlington Fire Department (BFD) Honor Guard members, with two alternates standing by, marched to the center of the field at Bank of America Stadium to present the colors before the Carolina Panthers took on their conference rivals, the Atlanta Falcons, on Sunday, November 5. The sell-out crowd of 75,525 watched as the BFD Honor Guard presented the American flag, along with the state flags of North and South Carolina.

The Honor Guard was established in 1988 and typically assists with funeral processions, award ceremonies, and other local flag ceremonies. Honor Guard Captain Paul Watlington reached out to the Carolina Panthers in January on their website through an application process. Much to his surprise and delight, the BFD Honor Guard was selected to present the colors at one of eight regular season home games this year.

Of the prestigious honor, Captain Watlington said, “We are honored to have been selected to present the colors of our great state and nation in Charlotte at this week’s Panther’s game. We are proud to represent Burlington in this manner in front of such a large audience.”

**BFD Honor Guard members on the field are:**

Captain Lawrence Alvis  
Lieutenant Chad Fleming  
Captain Neal Stanfield  
Lieutenant Chuck Loy  
Captain Joe Loy  
Captain Paul Watlington

**Members on the sidelines are:**

Captain Tony Mann  
Battalion Chief Anthony Davis

Attachment: Sideline photo of BFD Honor Guard at the Panthers v. Falcon's game prior to presenting the colors.

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Our Mission:

“The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees.”

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