



## Chief's Report

September 22, 2022

### OPERATIONS

#### Significant Alarms

##### **September 11, 2022: Motor Vehicle Collision with Entrapment**

SRFR units in the West Battalion responded to the report of a one vehicle roll-over collision with one person trapped inside the vehicle and not responding. Firefighters arrived to find one patient with injuries trapped inside a vehicle with heavy damage, on its top, with airbags deployed. Firefighters utilized rescue tools to extricate the patient from the vehicle. The patient was transported by a SRFR Paramedic Unit to Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland.

##### **August 31, 2022: Fire Residential Confirmed**

SRFR North Battalion units were dispatched to a possible illegal burn. About two blocks from the location of the incident, the alarm was upgraded to a Fire Residential Confirmed. Firefighters arrived to find a single-story house with the back deck and most of the back side of the structure on fire. Fire had extended into the attic space. Firefighters quickly attacked the fire, opened the roof, and the fire was controlled. The Fire Marshal determined the cause to be spontaneous combustion of the soil in a flower pot on the deck. This was later verified by a home security video.

##### **August 31, 2022, 9:50 p.m.: Motor Vehicle Collision-Technical Rescue**

SRFR East Battalion units were dispatched to a technical rescue involving a vehicle down an embankment with victims inside. Responders arrived to find one vehicle off the roadway, down an embankment (approximately 40 feet) on its driver's side. Two injured patients were found in the vehicle. Both patients were rescued through the windshield of the vehicle and placed into specialized stokes baskets and removed from the accident area. Both patients were transported to local hospitals for evaluation and treatment within 22 minutes of the first arriving SRFR unit.

##### **September 10, 2022: Bolt Creek Fire**

Around 6:00 a.m., SRFR units were dispatched to the Skykomish/Baring area for a rapidly growing wildland fire that was wind driven and moving west. A total of eight SRFR units assisted in the incident and two officers participated in the incident management team as the Logistics Section Chief and the Public Information Officer.

Thanks to all who assisted in the incident including responders, and personnel who provided backfill, support, and coordination.



### **September 10, 2022: Lake Stevens Triathlon**

BuDu racing hosted a Sprint (short) and Olympic (long) distance triathlon in Lake Stevens on September 10th. SRFR provided EMS coverage for the event, with two members staffing the UTV for immediate emergency medical needs.

### **Emergency Medical Services**

#### **Paramedic School**

The first day of Paramedic School for the four SRFR employees attending the Central University program began this week. Student Paramedics Aaron DeSalvo, Jacob Curti, Brady O'Brien and Thomas Brown begin their education to become certified as Paramedics. They are attending the Central Washington University program before returning to SRFR to complete Snohomish County protocols.

### **PLANNING**

#### **Community Relations**

Public Education Updates:

School Visits: **2nd Grade:** Reaching out to schools to get 2nd Grade classes scheduled this fall.

**Kindergarten:** Working on creating a training video to refresh crews on Toys vs. Tools.

Adult & Senior Safety Classes YTD: **7**

- The next class is Disaster Preparedness on **October 12th**
- In Person Aging in Place Class at Monroe Senior Center **October 26th**

PES Kaitlin King has been invited to speak about SRFR's Education Programs and the Firefighter Home School Lessons at the **2023 Illinois Fire Inspectors Association Fire and Life Safety Conference**, in East Peoria, Illinois in March 2023. Congratulations Kaitlin!

Social Media Snapshot: **August 30th - September 13**

- **41** Posts
- **796** New Followers/Accounts
- **175,560** Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

External Media:

- Everett Herald: Heat Wave to Be a Scorcher
- King 5 News: 'It Changed My Life': Monroe Resident Thankful For Firefighter Who Fixed Up Her House
- KIRO 7: Bolt Creek Fire
- Incident Command for Bolt Creek Fire-Lead on Communications - PIEO Mongillo



#### Internal Media:

- Fall '22 Newsletter
- Lake Stevens House Fire Caused by Spontaneous Combustion
- Upgraded Outdoor Burning Ban
- Disaster Preparedness Month
- Bolt Creek Fire
- Open House Promotion
- Hot Weather Safety
- August 31 Residential Fire
- Pre-Academy Training
- Retirements
- Monroe Parades/Pirsch
- Huber House Painting

The Communications Team has finished the Fall '22 Newsletter that is set to drop the last week of September and is currently working on the 2021 Annual Report.

#### Completed August Events:

- National Night Out - Monroe, Lake Stevens, Willis Tucker, Mill Creek (August 2nd)  
All locations had a successful turn out. Monroe's NNO celebration was the biggest yet with about 3,000 people in attendance.
- Echo Lake Block Party (August 14th)
- Lake Stevens Resource Fair (August 20th)
- Monroe School District Resource Fair (August 31st): PIEO Mongillo gave out close to 200 helmets to deserving kids and families.

The Communications Team is working on coordinating the following events:

- Lake Stevens Starbucks Coffee with the Chief and Crew: October 6th
- Fire Prevention Week Open House at Station 31: October 15th

PES Kaitlin King and PIEO Peter Mongillo are working with our webmaster to update the SRFR website with current content on the following pages:

- About Us Section and Recruitment/Employment Pages

### **Strategic Analysis**

#### **Accreditation**

SRFR continues to make good progress towards accreditation from the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). During the week of September 18, a CPSE Peer Evaluation Team visited SRFR to evaluate the organization and determine SRFR's qualification status for accreditation. The Team evaluated all facets of SRFR services and completed extensive interviews with many SRFR team members. The evaluation was successful and the Peer Evaluation Team is



recommending SRFR's accreditation. The final step in the process will be in February 2023 in Orlando, Florida when SRFR is slated to go before the Accreditation Board for final approval.

This is great news for our agency! Thank you to all for your help and support moving through the accreditation process. It has been a true team effort with everyone in the organization contributing. Kudos to Chief Messer and the Core Team for leading the effort!

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

### **Human Resources**

#### **Career Entry-level Firefighters and Lateral Firefighter Paramedics**

The District completed round one interviews during the week of September 19, 2022. Second round interviews are scheduled to begin the week of September 26, 2022.

Denise Mattern applied for and was promoted to the Human Resources Analyst position effective September 1, 2022. The HR Division is excited to have her on board and looks forward to the positive impact she will continue to make in her new role! Congratulations Denise!!

## **CULTURAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The Cultural Leadership Team has met four times since our initial retreat in May and we want to communicate what we have accomplished so far. We also want to provide an update on other projects that are ongoing. We have divided into different committees (Rebranding, Station Pride, and Outside Culture Research) to guide our efforts to improve agency culture.

### **Finished Projects**

- Rebranding
  - Comprehensive list created of all items that still need to be rebranded
  - Items Rebranded So Far:
    - Paychecks/Direct Deposit
    - Senior Staff and Commissioner Pictures on Website
    - Resource Boxes and Binders for West Battalion
    - Operative IQ Client Identifier
    - Mission Vision Values Boards
    - Pager
    - Station 71 Front Entry Window
- Station Pride
  - Mission Vision Values boards have been sent to all of the stations and have been installed
- Outside Culture Research
  - Calls made to other neighboring agencies who have gone through a merger



### **Ongoing Projects**

- Rebranding
  - Working to check off items from comprehensive rebranding list
- Spot Videos
  - Spot Videos to feature support squad, community relations, logistics, IT, HR, CFO, and Mechanics to be placed on personnel portal so that staff can “see” day staff and understand who they can reach out to for various needs
- Culture Survey
  - Results are being compiled and common themes are being noted
  - Themes from the survey will be presented to Executive Staff and to the Commissioners
  - An ad is going to be added to the Wiz Boards detailing suggestions/comments/ideas emailed directly to Captain Fetcho
- Outside Culture Research
  - Research and evaluating how other organizations have dealt with cultural challenges, and working on obtaining information from other departments

Looking forward to a bright future for Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue,

Kevin O’Brien, Fire Chief