



Chief's Report

December 14, 2023

Mission

Save Lives, Protect Property, Safeguard the Environment, and Take Care of People

Vision

We will be a proactive regional emergency services leader by partnering to provide safe communities for people to live, work and explore.

Guiding Values

Respect, Accountability, Integrity, Teamwork, Service

OPERATIONS

Significant Alarms

Multiple Water Rescues 12/5/2023

On December 5, the Skykomish, Snoqualmie, and Snohomish Rivers were in a flood stage due to heavy rainfall and rising temperatures which was causing snow melt from the Cascades.

- **Water Rescue 1:** Crews responded to the Lewis Street Bridge for a Swift Water Response at approximately 12:00 p.m. Responders arrived with Monroe Police and found four stranded citizens on a newly formed island in the Skykomish River. B31 initiated command while crews developed a plan to get the citizens to safety. BT31 and Hovercraft 51 were launched at the Lewis Street boat launch. Responders were able to access the citizens using inflatable kayaks. The four citizens and a dog were safely moved to dry land and evaluated by the crews on the scene.
- **Water Rescue 2:** Crews responded to a report of a boat floating down the Skykomish River at approximately 6:30 p.m. There was one citizen in the boat with no life jacket or paddle. The command post was initially located at Station 31 while crews determined the location of the boat. UAS55 (a drone) assisted in locating the citizen and quickly determined the best access was the SR 522 bridge. Crews were sent to Three Rivers Mobile Home and Stocker Farm in Snohomish as a back-up. The citizen ended up in the water after his boat capsized near the SR 522 bridge. SRFR rescue swimmers entered the water and rescued the citizen from the Three Rivers boat launch. The citizen was transported to a local hospital by M72 for hypothermia. Great job by all crews in difficult conditions.

We commend the professionalism and dedication of our Water Rescue Team. Thank you!



Commercial Fire 11/30/2023

B71, L71, and M33 responded with Eastside Fire & Rescue to a commercial fire at a Target store in Woodinville. L71 was assigned to give roof report and laddered the C-side for access. M33 was assigned to medical group. B71 assumed ventilation group and had L131, L127, L71, L161 and A131 assigned. After the fire was knocked down, the ventilation group used multiple fans and exterior doors to clear out the smoke from the structure. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

The fire was largely sprinkler controlled but it did fill Target with smoke. We used 10 PPV fans in sequence to get air moving through the building for ventilation as well as reversing the HVAC system.

King County B131 gave great feedback for the work ethic and professionalism of our crews. Note: This was Riley Korf's last response with SRFR. Riley, thank you for all your hard work and dedication, you will be missed.

Natural Gas Explosion

SRFR units responded to a reported explosion and fire in a residential structure. E72 arrived and reported a working fire and declared a defensive strategy. Crews were advised that the house was vacant. SRFR units arrived and began stretching attack lines for fire control. B71 established command. Crews extinguished the fire from the exterior and worked with PSE to shut off natural gas to the structure.

Interesting Call

SRFR units were requested to assist with a cow near SR2 that had been sedated by a veterinarian. Responders assisted the local veterinarian with securing the cow and moving it to a local farmers trailer. Great job on an unusual call!

Driver/Operator Promotions

Chief's interviews for Driver/Operator were conducted on 11/27 and 11/30. Congratulations to Ben Francis, Erik Emerson, and Jeff Walker for their promotion to Driver Operator! Their shift assignments and official promotion date will commence January 1, 2024. Great job to each candidate and thank you to all who participated in the process!

Recruit Academy Graduation

Congratulations to our 14 new firefighters! Recruit Academy graduation will be held on 12/14/23, 4:00 p.m., at the Everett Performing Arts Center.

Fire Suppression / Special Operations

New Engine Arrival

The first two of the new SRFR fire engines arrived at Station 31 in November. The other two engines have arrived this month. The shop and Engine Operations Committee will work together to place the engines into service. The engines will be placed in service at Station 33, 72, 73, and 77. The engines are excellent pieces of equipment that will greatly help us support our mission. Thank you to the Engine Committee, Shop, and all who helped with the project.



Special Operations Testing

Operations and Human Resources coordinated to administer a Special Operations Test on December 5 and 6. This process targeted all three Special Operations Teams: Water Rescue, Technical Rescue, and HazMat. Fourteen members participated in the testing process, with one member taking two tests. Everyone who participated performed well and passed. Thanks to Human Resources and Operations for their great work with this testing process!

Emergency Medical Services

Medic School Test Prep

We will be offering two Medic School Test informational sessions in the coming two months. All parties interested in attending medic school this year or in the future are encouraged to attend. Thanks Paramedic Odgers for developing the sessions!

Thank You Dr. Talley

Dr. Talley's last shift as our delegate physician was in November. We thank him for his guidance through two mergers and a pandemic, and we wish him the best on his next adventure! The District is currently working to find a new delegate physician.

Paramedic Student Oleg Mikhaylov

Positive feedback was received concerning Firefighter Mikhaylov's performance at medic school. He had a 100% success rate with intubations on his first day in the OR. Keep up the good work Oleg!

New Glidescope Go

Our new Glidescope Go intubation device has arrived and we are working on a training process to place this in service.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Relations

Public Education

At the beginning of November, PIEO King visited 4 second grade classes (100 students) at Salem Woods Elementary School. Later in the month, PIEO King taught 2 second grade classes (40 students) at Monroe Christian School. Students learned about calling 911, escape planning, and sheltering in place.

During the week of November 13th, the PIEOs successfully completed FEMA's weeklong course, Public Information Basics. They learned about media relations, and how to support the IC in an emergency situation. PIEO Mongillo also presented as the SME (Subject Matter Expert) for the Media Relations portion of the class.



On November 18th, members of the Fire Marshal's Office and PIEO Mongillo assisted Red Cross at a Smoke Alarm Event at Three Rivers Mobile Home Park in response to the fatal fire that happened there at the end of October. The group installed 63 alarms in 30 homes, with a total of 98 people reached.

On November 18th, Program Specialist Larson and Station 82 participated with the Lake Stevens Holiday Toy Drive. For this event, SRFR partnered with the Lake Stevens Community Resource Center along with the Lake Stevens Sewer District, LSPD, Molina Healthcare, LS Lions Club, and Volunteers of America to collect toys for children in the community.

During the week of Thanksgiving, PIEO Mongillo and PIEO King taught 13 Impact Teen Driver classes at the Cavelero Mid-High. Students learned about the dangers of distracted and impaired driving.

During the last week of November, PIEO Mongillo and PIEO King taught Aging in Place at the Brookdale Monroe. The 20+ attendees learned about home fire safety, falls prevention, and medication safety. Earlier that week, PIEO King taught a Home Fire Safety class to 20 seniors at Brookdale Monroe. Attendees learned about home fire safety, kitchen safety, and sheltering in place.

During the first week of December, the Community Relations and Strategic Analysis Teams met for a retreat to discuss the coming year and discuss how to maximize efficiency.

School Visits:

- Kinder: 5 Classes School Year-to-Date
- 2nd Grade: 6 Classes School Year-to-Date
- Middle/High School: 26 Classes School Year-to-Date

Adult & Senior Safety Classes YTD: 16

Upcoming Community Events:

- Scout Day Open House: March 9th

Public Information

Social Media Snapshot: November 1 – December 10

- 74 Posts
- 426 New Followers/Accounts
- 439,257 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

External Media

SRFR Flooding Rescue made national news with countless stories.



KING 5 "Firefighters rescue man from Snohomish River during flood using drone."
<https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/firefighters-rescue-man-skykomish-river-during-flood-waters/281-a2158d40-4270-4d7e-b5be-964a28643ecc>

KIRO 7 "'Incredible save': Crews rescue man thrown from boat on Snohomish River."
<https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/incredible-save-crews-rescue-man-thrown-boat-snohomish-river/Y76HRMLYKJEBFPC44MBCY24WCE/>

KOMO 4 "4 people, dog rescued from Al Borlin Park after flooding caused by heavy rains."
<https://komonews.com/news/local/4-people-dog-rescued-from-al-borlin-park-flooding-caused-by-heavy-rains-skyomish-river-woods-creek-water-snowmelt-trapped-lewis-street-park-snohomish-county-fire-rescue>

Bothell explosion had a lot of local media attention with many news reports.

Herald "After a newly bought Bothell house exploded, experts urge caution."
<https://www.heraldnet.com/news/after-a-newly-bought-bothell-house-exploded-experts-urge-caution/>

KIRO 7 "Garage door blown across the street after Bothell home explodes, shattering neighbors' windows."
<https://www.kiro7.com/news/north-sound-news/firefighters-respond-home-explosion-bothell/K7YCNMWHGFGCDEKZFLQPKOSCO4/>

Internal Media

- Levy
- Online Classes
- Space Heater Safety Messaging
- Veterans Day
- Lieutenant Promotions
- Levy Thank You Video
- Police & Fire Appreciation Week Parades
- Snohomish Training Academy
- Thanksgiving Cooking Safety
- Burn Ban
- Bothell House Explosion - 71,259 FB users reached
- Travis Jacobs and Neil Merritt Honored by VFW
- Flood Warnings
- Al Borlin Park Water Rescue
- Snohomish River Water Rescue - 34,490 FB users reached
- Snohomish County Fire Training Academy Sandbag Efforts in Stanwood
- DOT Log Jam



I hope you and your families have great holidays!

Thank you for your dedicated service,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief

