



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

### **Chief's Report**

**January 25, 2024**

#### **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**

##### **Residential Fire Response**

On January 18, at approximately 6:00 a.m., units from SRFR, SCFD #4, and South County Fire responded to a house fire on Lowell Larimer Road. The first arriving unit reported a fully involved house fire with defensive fire conditions. Command was established and crews used multiple 2.5" lines in defensive positions to control the fire. The crews contained the fire to the occupancy of origin. There were no injuries to civilian or fire personnel. The fire is being investigated by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office.

#### **Training & Safety**

##### **Officer Development Program**

Seven company officers attended the Officer Development Program in Pensacola, Florida from January 15 - 19. This is a 5-day, 40-hour course is dedicated to the development of company officers. The ODP is all about professional development and spends time on strategy, tactics, and leadership on the fireground and in the station.

#### **Cultural Health Assessment**

Dr. Pat Sikora visited SRFR over the last two weeks and conducted interviews with as many SRFR team members as possible regarding the cultural health of SRFR. In the spirit of continuous improvement, we want to learn how we can support the best possible culture for our team. Dr. Sikora will be developing a report of her findings which should be available in the spring. Thanks to the Cultural Leadership Team for their work with Dr. Sikora. Below are tentative dates for Dr. Sikora's visit.



## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Progressive Design Build Qualification**

On 1/25, staff presented before the Washington State Project Review Committee to request qualification for the Progressive Design Build process supporting the rebuild of Stations 81 and 32. Following the presentation and deliberation by the Project Review Committee, SRFR received formal certification to proceed with the Progressive Design Build process. The Progressive Design Build process incorporates an architect/builder team that designs and builds the project. Agencies that have used the Design Build process have seen improved construction and shortened timelines for completion.

### **Community Relations**

#### **Public Education**

Last week, PIEO King, PIEO Mongillo, GIS Coordinator Sexton, and DC McConnell presented to the Echo Lake Community about Wildfire Preparedness and Home Fire Safety. Attendees learned about defensible space, fire resistant landscaping, and about fire escape plans and smoke alarms.

During the week of January 15th, the PIEOs successfully completed SRFR's EVIP training.

On January 19th, PIEO King presented about Home Fire Safety to Cascade Church's Foster/Adopt Support Group. Attendees learned about smoke alarms, escape planning, and how to teach kids about fire safety.

January 15-21 was CRR (Community Risk Reduction) Week, so the PIEOs worked with the county-wide PIO/PE group to coordinate messaging to spread the word about the 5 E's of CRR: Emergency Response, Education, Economic Incentive, Engineering, and Enforcement.

#### **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: 1

#### **Upcoming Community Events:**

- Women in Public Service Recruitment Event: January 31st
- Scout Day Open House: March 9th



### **Chamber Meetings**

The January 9th Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Waugh, Deputy Chief Rasmussen, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Business Administrator Schoof. The topic for January was networking.

The January 10th Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Chief Rasmussen, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Program Specialist Larson. The topic for January was the State of the Chamber with 2023 in Review and a 2024 Preview.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Collaboration Meeting with SCFD 4 and SCRFA**

On 1/11, the Chiefs from SCFD 4, SCRFA, and SRFR met to initiate a conversation about how the agencies can improve potential partnerships in all aspects of operations. The group established monthly meetings to move forward. No other decisions were made.

### **Lateral Firefighter/Paramedic Interviews**

On 1/17 and 1/18, senior leadership interviewed three Lateral Firefighter/Paramedic candidates. The candidates interviewed well and were offered positions pending medical screening and background checks. A start date for the candidates is anticipated in March.

### **Legislative Day at the State Capitol**

On 1/23, senior leadership and commissioners attended the Washington State Legislative Day for Chiefs and Commissioners at the State Capitol. We had the opportunity to meet with many legislators representing the SRFR area to discuss important issues affecting fire and EMS operations. At the top of the list was funding. It was good to see that we have positive support from our legislators.

### **Leadership Meeting**

On 1/24 SRFR held a quarterly Leadership Meeting. The meeting was well attended and included an assortment of topics important to the District.

With appreciation,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief