



Chief's Report

February 8, 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

Emergency Medical Services

EMS Training Platform

EMS Connect has been launched for a year as a trial online EMS training platform. This will replace Target Solutions as our EMS training provider. This change is in direct response to feedback from the crews. The switch has already provided positive feedback and will increase the quality of our EMS Training.

Airway Management Goals

Along with Snohomish County EMS, SRFR will be focusing in 2024 on improving our airway management safety and success. With that aim in mind, the EMS Division is taking several steps:

- Purchased new video laryngoscopes with various blade types and sizes allowing an improved direct or indirect view, use of a bougie, better learning, and the ability to leverage *all* intubations for better review and training.
- Purchasing new, more reliable suctioning devices with large bore suction catheters to better view contaminated airways.
- Purchased new training manikins of adult, pediatric and infant sizes for each battalion.
- Setting aside time at run reviews for hands-on practice.

According to our EHR data, the following shows our success rates at intubating on first attempt:

- 81% w/ 137 patients (79% for cardiac arrest) in 2020
- 82% w/ 158 patients (78% for cardiac arrest) in 2021
- 82% w/ 167 patients (77% for cardiac arrest) in 2022
- 86% w/ 126 patients (83% for cardiac arrest) in 2023



In addition to our first pass success, Code Stat will help us better monitor and improve the safety of our patients during advanced airways. Building on our improvements over the years, the medic group set a goal of 90% safe first pass success rate for 2024!

Training & Safety **Recruit Firefighters**

Three new recruits started the pre-academy on January 2nd and will be headed to the Snohomish County Fire Training Academy starting February 20th. We welcome Seth Lawson, Karlie McMillan, and Quinn Evans as new members of SRFR! We will have one company officer, Jacob Winter, joining the recruits at the Academy. Thank you, Lieutenant Winter, for filling this crucial role at the Academy.

Probationary Firefighter Workbook

The Probationary Firefighter Workbook presentations were completed this month. We would like to give a big thank you to Jeremy Karapostoles and Karli Morrison for creating a fantastic new Probationary Program. We are excited to implement this new program for our recruits who will soon be completing EMT school.

Ready Rebound

Ready Rebound is officially live and available to all current employees, family members, and retirees. Ready Rebound can be used for on-duty or off-duty musculoskeletal injuries and will help expedite the process of finding the appropriate provider for you. When you call the hotline number (800-781-2320), you will be assigned a Care Coordination Team that will assist you through the injury, treatment, and recovery process.

Annual Awards Banquet

On Saturday, February 3rd, SRFR held our Annual Awards Banquet at the Tulalip Casino. The Banquet is an opportunity for us to thank every SRFR member for their great work, time with SRFR, and featured a new awards system developed by the SRFR Awards Committee. The Committee members Chair Pat Gjerde, Evan Adolf, Justin Bradley, Ryan Murstig, and Alex Fatkin presented an assortment of awards to many well deserving SRFR members. And what an excellent coin Jerem Rhoades crafted! Thank you, Jerem.

Special thanks to the Banquet Committee members Karli Morrison, Allison Lamb, Peter Mongillo, Kaitlin King, Jared Spence, and Evan Adolf. The food was outstanding, the event was very well planned, and it was a great success.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Relations

Public Education

The week of January 22nd, PIEO King taught Disaster Preparedness, the first Online Adult & Senior Safety class of the year! We had a record attendance for our online monthly classes. Attendees learned about what to do before, during, and after a disaster.

On January 25th, PIEO King presented to the Monroe Senior Center about Healthy Habits. Attendees learned about the benefits of exercise and nutrition and how these healthy habits can prevent falls and can help seniors age in place.

On January 30th, PIEO Mongillo and PIEO King attended a countywide press conference about Nurse Navigation which is an innovative system that will direct some 911 callers with non-emergent illnesses or injuries to a licensed nurse, who will quickly help them find the most appropriate care. Ambulances will always be dispatched to 911 callers with urgent, life-threatening or potentially life-threatening medical emergencies.

Last week, PIEO King, PIEO Mongillo, GIS Coordinator Sexton, FF/Paramedic Hanna, and FF Rider attended the Women in Public Service Recruitment event at Galaxy Theater in Monroe. The group networked with other public agencies and spoke to event attendees about the fire district and about the different careers in the fire service.

During the week of January 22nd, Engine 83 completed two Rides to School in an Engine, and Engine 73 completed one. These Rides to School in an Engine were offered as auction items for local fundraisers.

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: 4

Upcoming Community Events:

- Scout Day Open House: March 9th

Public Information

Social Media Snapshot: December 11, 2023 – January 31, 2024

- 117 Posts
- 162 New Followers/Accounts
- 242,922 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks



External Media:

January 17 Herald - Icy roads close schools in Edmonds, Mukilteo, Snohomish and beyond.

<https://www.heraldnet.com/news/icy-roads-close-schools-in-edmonds-mukilteo-snohomish-and-beyond/>

Internal Media:

- SCFTA Graduation
- Scout Day
- Holiday Safety Messaging
- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
- Job Postings
- Adult & Senior Safety Classes
- Newsletter
- Recruit Run
- Winter Driving Tips
- CRR Week
- Frozen Pipe Tips
- New Aid Remounts
- Jayme Biendl Memorial 5K
- Nurse Navigator Sno911
- Women in Public Service Career & Recruiting Fair

Office of the Fire Marshal

The 2021 technical code series is being adopted by the State of Washington for enforcement in March. The division is briefing the Lake Stevens City Council on local fire code amendments. These changes include (1) alignment with the Hearing Examiner appeals process, (2) requirements for adding additional fire hydrants when the hydrant is located opposite a collector road or larger, and (3) completed adoption of gates and barricades requirements from section 503 of the International Fire Code.

2023 End of Year Totals

Plan Reviews: 997 (completed within 14 days 90% of the time); Annual Inspections: 1,550 of 2,440 completed; Fire Marshal Incident Response: 10

January 2024 Totals

Plan Reviews: 117; Annual Inspections: 124 of 156 completed; Fire Marshal Incident Response: 2



BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Senior Staff Workshop

January 30, 31, and February 1, Senior Staff participated in a workshop to plan for 2024 and beyond. Highlights of the workshop included a day-long, “red carpet” tour of Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority (PSRFA) in South King County. Chief Carson and his staff were incredible hosts spending the day sharing the operations of PSRFA. PSRFA started as the City of Kent Fire Department and today is an agency that includes five cities and two fire districts. They are a well-run organization to observe as we grow. Other topics of the workshop included 2024 Goals, Senior Staff improvement, and looking toward 2025 and beyond.

Executive Assistant

Consistent with our approved and budgeted hiring plan and given room in HR’s workload, we will soon be recruiting for the Executive Assistant position. The Executive Assistant will assist the Senior Staff with clerical tasks such as communication, schedule coordination, and other associated tasks. We hope to have the new position filled in April.

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O’Brien, Fire Chief