



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

Chief's Report

May 23, 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

MEMORIAL DAY 2024

On this Memorial Day Weekend, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue honors the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. Their ultimate sacrifice will forever be anchored into our history. We are inspired and deeply thankful for their courage.

RETIREMENTS

Driver Operator Joel Lengkeek

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue will honor Driver Operator Joel Lengkeek and his 31 years of service on Tuesday, May 28, 0900, at Station 81. Thank you Joel, for your dedicated service to our community! Enjoy your next chapter!

Battalion Chief Troy Elmore

The Mukilteo Fire Department will honor Battalion Chief Troy Elmore and his 35 years of service on Wednesday, May 29, 0800, at Station 25 (10400 47th Place West, Mukilteo). Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue extends our honor to Battalion Chief Elmore for his dedicated service to the community. We look forward to Commissioner Elmore continuing his steadfast service to the SRFR Community! Congratulations Battalion Chief/Commissioner Elmore!

OPERATIONS

Significant Alarms

Trauma at Twin Rivers Correctional Facility

Engine and Medic 31 responded to the Twin Rivers Correctional Facility for a report of a head injury. The crew arrived to find an inmate with a self-inflicted head wound that was caused by a



chop saw. Medic 31 quickly transported the unconscious patient to Providence Medical Center ED.

Residential Fire

At approximately 6:20 p.m. on May 6th in the area of 94th Dr SE, Lake Stevens, North Battalion crews responded to a shed on fire extending to the nearby trees and house, with the possibility of a person living in the shed and two people in the house who were refusing to leave. Dispatch passed on that an explosion was heard and that this was a known drug house. The crews arrived to find a working fire on the Charlie side of the structure with a shed fully involved and fire extending to the trees and main house. Fire crews worked for about half an hour extinguishing the bulk of the fire. There was a tremendous amount of miscellaneous storage in the shed, house, and around the yard. There was debris up to seven feet deep inside the structure with pathways through the debris leading from room to room.

Crews spent more than four hours overhauling the structure to include overhauling the piles of material from the shed. The fire had extended to the attic space of the house. The crews found the attic area was also used for storage and was nearly completely full, floor to ceiling. Access was limited.

Crews cleared the scene around 11:00 p.m. and returned at midnight, 3:00 a.m., and 7:00 a.m. to perform a fire watch. No additional smoke or fire was found. Great job by the crews in less-than-ideal conditions. There were no injuries to firefighters or to the home's occupants.

Fire Suppression / Special Operations

Technical Rescue

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue had our six new rescue technicians attend the first annual Snohomish Technical Rescue Academy. Brian Kerr, Soren Johnson, Johnathon Thompson, Logan Harding, Jerem Rhoades and Mitch Shrauner all attended. This was a four-week intensive academy that covered all the disciplines of Technical Rescue: Rope, Trench, Confined Space and USAR. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue's newest techs repelled from the roof of the Everett Events Center, simulated rescues in 12-foot-deep trenches, and crawled through tight spaces, all in the process of becoming the newest members of the Snohomish County Technical Rescue Team. In addition to our members attending, Chad Squire took the role of Lead Instructor for Confined Space as a part of the academy and taught the class to the 16 students. Kevin Gleason also helped instruct for several days over the course of the Academy.

Water Rescue

During the week of April 29th Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue swift water instructors taught a five-day swift water class to 12 members of Navy EOD Mobile Unit 1. This group specializes in dealing with explosives in all water environments and wanted to add swift water capabilities to their skill set. The class centered around comfort in moving water and emphasizing skills in



getting people and equipment across rivers. The training was well received, and they are looking to send more members for future classes.

During the week of May 3rd, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue's swift water instructors taught the District's annual Water Rescue Academy. This class had 18 people in it from five different Districts in Snohomish County. Four of those who attended are the newest members of our own water team getting their initial training: Alex Fatkin, Adam Perron, Ben Bloomquist, and Tyler Compton. This class gave students skills to navigate in moving water, starting in the slower Sultan River and ending in the much faster and rougher Skykomish River in Index.

Training & Safety

Pump School

The Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue Training Division hosted a Pump School for our future drivers during the week of May 6th. We had 15 students successfully complete Pump School and they will be working on their Acting Driver check-offs this summer.

Great job by Lead Instructors Todd Epler and Dave Peterson! They coordinated the Pump School and made it a great experience for all involved. They couldn't have done it without help from Ryan Rozelle, Jesse Abercrombie, Tony Gleason, Johnson Brooks, Daniel Kindig, Steven Johnson, Erik Emerson, Joe Strong, and Ross Rumann.

Recruit Academy Graduates

On May 16th, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue Firefighters successfully graduated from the Snohomish County Fire Training Academy. Congratulations to Quinn Evans, Karlie McMillan, and Seth Lawson!

Cultural Leadership Team

The Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue Cultural Leadership Team held their annual workshop from May 13 through May 15. The workshop was devoted to addressing issues from the Sikora Report. Following the workshop, the team identified potential solutions based on the common themes in the report of Trust, Accountability, Communication, and Taking Care of People. Thanks to the team for their hard work!

Entry Level Firefighter and Paramedic First Round Interviews

During the week of May 21st, First Round interviews were held for Entry Level Firefighter and Paramedic. Thank you to all who participated in the process. Additionally, kudos to our hiring committee for developing an updated process.

Deputy Chief First Round Interviews

On May 21 and 22, First Round Interviews for Deputy Chief were held. There were 30 candidates interviewed and 12 have been invited to Second Round interviews. Following the Second Round, we plan to bring four to six candidates to a Final Round where the candidates will be ranked and moved to Chief Interviews. Our goal is to have the new Deputy Chief on board in July.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Relations

Chamber of Commerce Membership Meetings

The May 1st Sky Valley Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by SDFM Bowen and AC Messer. The topic for May was a Legislative Update with Senator Keith Wagoner, Senator Brad Hawkins, Representative Sam Low, Representative Carolyn Eslick, Representative Mike Steele, and Representative Keith Goehner.

The May 8th Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Breakfast was attended by Chief O'Brien, DC Rasmussen, DC McConnell, DFM LeDuc, and Program Specialist Larson. The topic for May was *Spark! A Leadercast Program*, highlighting the five stages of transforming an idea into action.

The May 14th Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Schaub, AC Messer, DC McConnell, SDFM Bowen and DFM Dahl. The topic for May was a Snohomish County Update with the following speakers: Legislative Aide to Councilmember Sam Low, Snohomish County Council President Jared Mead and Vice President Nate Nehring.

Logistics

The Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue Progressive Design Build selection committee has completed its qualification process and is recommending BNBuilders / Miller-Hull as the District's design/build team for Stations 32 and 81. Thank you to Commissioner Jeff Schaub, AC Mike Messer, AC Ryan Lundquist, DC Ron Rasmussen, and OAC's Adam Johnson for your work on the selection process.

Office of the Fire Marshal

Knox eKey System Update

The Knox eKey system has been configured to open the South County Fire Knox boxes using the electronic key. The eKey now can open all of the Marysville Fire, South County Fire and all Knox boxes in our fire district that are located north of Hwy 2 that are equipped with the new eCores.

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief