



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

### Chief's Report

October 21, 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

#### Promotions

##### **Driver/Operator**

Congratulations to our newly promoted Driver/Operators; Adam Perron, Joe Strong, Tim Lambach, and Landon Bell! Thanks to all the candidates and everyone involved in the process.

##### **Leave Specialist**

Congratulations to Brittany Bazinet, SRFR's newly promoted Leave Specialist. We appreciate the participation and support of everyone involved in the process.

#### Significant Alarms

##### **Technical Rescue**

On October 15th, East Battalion units responded to a fall above the Skykomish River. B31 arrived to find the reporting party on the shoulder of Ben Howard Road, who then brought B31 to location where their friend had fallen. B31 was able to hear and see the person who fell, waving her hand approximately 100 feet down the embankment, just above the cliff side that went down to the river.

B31 assumed Ben Howard Command. E31 and A32's crews set up an anchor system and used a rope to make access to the person who fell. After falling down the hill, the person landed in the last small level spot before going over the steep cliff and approximately 80 feet down to the riverbank. The person could stand in the small area but was not secure. The crew was able to put her into a harness and anchor her to the rope, so she did not fall any further. With the help of the two rescuers who initially made contact, they were able to get her up the hill and to a spot where she could walk assisted to the top where she had originally fallen from. The person was not injured and did not want or need medical care.



## **Training**

### **Incident Safety Officer Class**

SRFR hosted an Incident Safety Officer Class on October 11-12, 2024. We had 13 members attend the class.

### **Live Fire Training**

The Training Division and our two Lead Live Fire Instructors James Hammeren and Tyler Compton completed four days of Live Fire Training at Station 54 in Gold Bar. The Training Division received lots of help from our members to make this training happen. Live Fire Training is essential to our firefighters in creating scenarios that mimic real life conditions and is mandated by Washington State law.

## **Health & Safety**

Thank you to all the members that participated in Live Fire Training and completed the full decontamination process. It is great to see our new tools and products including Stormstick, Hero Wipes, and FLAME decontamination soap; each being used to further reduce firefighter's exposure to carcinogens.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Community Relations**

#### **Chamber of Commerce Membership Meetings**

The October 2nd Sky Valley Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen, and Acting Deputy Fire Marshal Dahl. The topic for October was the Sultan School District update.

The October 8th Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Schaub, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen. The topic for October was a Legislative Update with the 12th District Representatives Mike Steele and Keith Goehner.

The October 9th Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Fire Marshal LeDuc, and Program Specialist Larson. The topic for October was Getting to Know the Small Business Administration, an overview of programs and resources to support small businesses.

## **Office of the Fire Marshal**

### **Fire Prevention Institute**

The Fire Marshal and Community Relations staff attended the WSAFM Fire Prevention Institute in Chelan last week. The FPI offers three tracks of continuing education which include Fire



Prevention, Fire Investigation, and Community Risk Reduction. Our staff receive most of their annual continuing education during this conference. This year we had 10 members in attendance.

Firefighter Ryan Stupey was awarded a scholarship to attend the FPI by Washington Survey and Rating Bureau valued at \$550 and AC Mike Messer was re-elected as the 2nd Vice President for WSAFM.

### **Certified Fire Protection Specialist**

SDFM Jason Bown passed the NFPA Certified Fire Protection Specialist exam after completing a 43-hour primer course consisting of 38 different modules and a capstone activity. He is now one of only 21 certified fire protection specialists in the state.

### **Fire Investigation**

The OFM has acquired Blazestack Fire Investigation Case Management Software. This software helps the OFM to complete casework per NFPA 921 and 1033 standards. Lt/DFM LeDuc was the first to use the software after completing an investigation recently in Lake Stevens.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

SRFR welcomes our new Confidential Support Specialist Kristi Szilak to our team on November 1. Kristi will be providing administrative support to the Chief and Senior Staff. She lives in Monroe with her family, has a PhD, and has been on staff at Northwest University. Welcome Kristi!

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief