



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

Chief's Report

December 19, 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

Ammonia Chemical Leak

On December 13th, Engine 82 (E82) and HazMat 72 responded to an ammonia leak at Pacific Seafood in Mukilteo, which quickly escalated from a first to a third alarm response. A shelter-in-place order was issued within a 500-foot radius of the leak. SRFR crews, along with South County, Everett, Marysville, and Mukilteo fire departments, worked together to isolate the ammonia tanks. After six hours of coordinated efforts, the leak was contained, preventing a larger hazard, and ensuring the safety of personnel and the community.





RV Fire

On December 14th, East Battalion crews responded to an RV fire caused by a propane leak during a repair attempt. Engine 32 (E32) arrived first and quickly controlled the fire, preventing it from spreading to nearby vehicles, trailers, and debris. Crews discovered a damaged valve on the propane tank fueling the refrigerator, which crews moved to a safe location, dissipating the gas, and removing the hazard. The RV owner, with minor injuries, declined further medical care and chose to seek treatment independently. Thanks to the swift actions of E32 and E31, the fire was contained, exposure risks managed, and the individual treated.



Fire Suppression / Special Operations

Training Opportunity

The Special Operations team is always seeking new training opportunities at target hazards within our district and in neighboring areas. Recently, Lieutenant Matt Suhayda and Lieutenant Chad Squire partnered with Snohomish Fire District 4 for an intensive training session at Snohomish High School. The focus was on rope rescue and elevator rescues, ensuring the team remains prepared for a variety of emergency situations.

Training

Recruit Graduation Class 25-02

On December 12th, the Snohomish County Fire Training Academy proudly celebrated the graduation of Class 25-02. A big congratulations goes out to our newest recruits: Emma Arnold, Anthony Counts, Hunter Fritz, Logan Gash, Randy Hatori, Nathan Labine, Nate Lawson, Josh Osburn, Cody Stocker, Tani Tupou, and Romey Xayamouangbo. We extend our heartfelt thanks



to our dedicated Company Officers Neil Merritt, Travis Rask, and David Pick, as well as to FTA Training Officer Bobby Lowe, whose leadership and guidance have played a vital role in shaping this outstanding group of new firefighters.

Acting Driver/Operator & Acting Lieutenant Update

The Training Division is excited to announce the recent completion of several Acting Driver/Operator and Acting Lieutenant check-off requirements. These important milestones mark the next step in the careers of our department members. Special congratulations go to Geoff Jacobs, who completed all his Acting Lieutenant requirements, and to Eric Reygers, who completed his Acting Driver/Operator requirements. We thank both for their commitment to personal growth and for stepping up to fill vital roles within the department.

New Training Equipment

Looking ahead, the Training Division is investing in new equipment to continue enhancing our training programs. We are purchasing three new forcible entry doors, with the goal of ensuring each station is equipped with one of its own. Additionally, we are adding another garage door prop to our training arsenal, bringing the total to four, with props now located at Stations 71, 32, 83, and the Snohomish Training Center (RLB). These additions will provide our team with more hands-on training opportunities to stay sharp and ready for any challenge.

Health & Safety

The Health and Safety Division is excited to announce the upcoming availability of a new app, PeerConnect, designed to enhance mental health resources for all department members. This app will be accessible to everyone, including retirees, and will provide a direct link to peer support personnel, along with a range of valuable content and resources. PeerConnect is a part of our ongoing commitment to support the well-being of our team, ensuring that help and resources are just a tap away whenever needed.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Relations

Chamber of Commerce Membership Meetings

The December 4th Sky Valley Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Senior Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen and Acting Deputy Fire Marshal Dahl. The meeting focused on connecting with legislators from the 12th & 39th Districts.

The December 10th Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Schaub, Commissioner Steinruck, Assistant Chief Lundquist, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Senior Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen. The meeting focused on receiving updates from the Monroe School District, featuring guest speakers Shawn Woodward and Chuck Whitfield.



The December 11th Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Commissioner Elmore, Deputy Chief McConnell, Senior Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen, Deputy Fire Marshal LeDuc, and Program Specialist Larson. The meeting focused on holiday networking.

Thank you to all SRFR team members for your hard work and dedication each day!

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief

