



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

### Chief's Report

March 13, 2025

#### **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

##### **Vehicle Fire 2/21/2025**

On the morning of February 21, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) crews responded to the scene of a reported car fire in Lake Stevens. While en route, dispatchers at SNO911 provided a critical update that someone had been sleeping inside the vehicle when it caught fire.

Firefighters from Engine 82 quickly brought the flames under control, while crews from Aid 82 and Medic 82 provided immediate medical care. The individual suffered serious third-degree burns and was urgently transported to Providence Medical Center in Everett for treatment. Due to the severity of the injuries, the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the cause of the fire.

##### **Motor Vehicle Entrapment 2/24/2025**

SRFR firefighters, with responders from Granite Falls, Marysville, and Getchell, responded to a rescue after a massive tree fell on a truck, trapping two people inside.

When crews arrived, they found a large tree split into two massive 16-inch sections that had crushed the vehicle. Despite the extensive damage, the driver appeared uninjured. One child was quickly freed, but the driver remained trapped. Firefighters devised multiple rescue plans, including cutting the tree or stabilizing it, and tunneling through the truck.

With the patient in stable condition, crews moved forward with cutting. Using three chainsaws running simultaneously, firefighters worked for 20 minutes to clear the tree. Once removed, rescue tools were used to quickly free the driver. The patient was evaluated on scene and



transported as a precaution. Thanks to the teamwork of multiple fire agencies, this complex rescue had a successful outcome.

### **MEDX 2/28/2025**

Upon receiving reports of two unconscious individuals, SRFR crews rushed to Al Borlin Park. Upon arrival, firefighters found a male patient collapsed in the bushes and a female lying outside the driver's side door of a vehicle. Monroe Police were already on scene and had administered Narcan to both individuals. Despite their efforts, neither patient was breathing. Firefighters and paramedics quickly took over life-saving care. Both patients were stabilized and transported to Evergreen Health Monroe. Monroe Police remained on the scene to handle the female's vehicle and her numerous dogs.

### **Special Operations**

#### **Motor Vehicle Collision/HazMat 2/26/2025**

Foggy conditions contributed to a major accident on SR2 just west of Monroe, involving multiple vehicles, a box truck carrying hazardous materials, and reports of a potentially ejected occupant. Off-duty first responders, including a firefighter from Snoqualmie and a police officer, were among the first to assist before emergency crews arrived.

SRFR, Snohomish County Fire District 4, and Marysville Fire District units responded to find three vehicles completely blocking the highway, with significant damage and deployed airbags. One patient had been thrown over an embankment and required advanced life support, while three other occupants reported no injuries.

Complicating the scene, firefighters discovered a liquid leaking from the damaged box truck. Upon further investigation, the truck was found to be carrying chlorine, diesel fuel, and granulated moss killer. HazMat teams were called in, who then safely identified and contained the leak and established a decontamination corridor.

Authorities, including Washington State Patrol, Snohomish County officials, and Monroe Police, shut down both directions of SR2 at Roosevelt for the duration of the response. The Department of Ecology was contacted to handle the hazardous spill. Thanks to the quick actions of first responders, including those off duty, a potentially dangerous situation was managed effectively, ensuring the safety of everyone involved.

### **Emergency Medical Services**

#### **Apparatus**

Members of the EMS Apparatus Committee worked closely with John Thomas, Deputy Chief Rasmussen, Deputy Chief Read, and representatives from Braun to review the details of three new ambulance units. A big thanks to everyone involved for their dedication!



## **Quality Management Committee**

The Quality Management (QM) Committee recently met with Dr. Beecroft to discuss important processes, ESO needs, and educational goals. This group is making great strides in strengthening this essential program, continuing to build it under the guidance of the EMS Division.

## **Training**

### **Multicompany Operations**

Starting March 3, firefighters from across Snohomish County have been participating in a special Multicompany Operations (MCO) training. This eight-day training ensures that all shifts and crews have the chance to take part. The program was developed by the Training Alliance of Snohomish County (TASC), a partnership that began with Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR), South County Fire, and Snohomish County Fire District 4. This MCO training is the first of four sessions planned for the year, helping firefighters enhance their teamwork and emergency response skills.

### **Welcome New Probationary Firefighters**

The latest group of recruits, Academy Class 24-02, will complete their Post Academy training on March 13 and officially begin working 24-hour shifts on March 17. For their first month, these new probationary firefighters will be assigned as additional staffing to help them adjust to their shifts and life at the fire station.

Please join us in welcoming our newest firefighters: Emma Arnold, Anthony Counts, Hunter Fritz, Logan Gash, Randy Hatori, Nathan Labine, Nate Lawson, Josh Osburn, Cody Stocker, Tani Tupou, and Romey Xayamouangbo.

### **Congratulations Academy Class 23-02**

Congratulations to Academy Class 23-02 for completing their probation and receiving their new firefighter badges!

Please join us in celebrating Katherine Dennis, David Rouse, Shawn Pittman, Rande Gruenwald, Nathaniel Pardo, Bret Litten, Erik Marty, and Scott Guittar on this achievement.

## **Health & Safety**

### **SCBA Pack Identifiers**

At the recommendation of the Health & Safety Committee, the Operations Division, with the help of Lieutenant Brian Kees, has purchased SCBA pack identifiers for every SCBA on an apparatus. Each SCBA will have one identifier on the bottle strap and another near the regulator. These identifiers have reflective and glow-in-the-dark properties, making it easier to identify a firefighter's station or crew in low-light or low-visibility situations. Firefighter Megan McGrew, a member of the Health & Safety Committee, will provide a brief training on how to use and install the identifiers and deliver them to each station.



## SUPPORT SERVICES

### Logistics

#### **Station 31 Shop Remodel**

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was a success, with a fantastic turnout. The Shop staff are enjoying their new facility and already making full use of the upgraded space.

#### **Stations 32 and 81**

This week, SRFR and OAC continued discussions with BN Builders and Miller Hull to review ongoing program planning and general cost estimates, working toward a mutually agreed-upon Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the project.

#### **Station 72**

The sewer and water plan is currently under review with Alderwood Water & Wastewater District, with an expected timeline of 8-10 weeks from the receipt of the application on February 19. Once the review is completed, a Development Technician will be assigned to the project.

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief