



Chief's Report

October 12 - 20, 2022

Community Open House in Monroe

Thanks to everyone who helped SRFR host the Community Open House at Monroe Station 31 on Saturday, October 15. The event was a great success and very well attended! Kudos to our Public Information Officers Kaitlin King and Peter Mongillo for coordinating the event. Special thanks to the Mattern family for being Open House MVPs!

This Chief's Report below is a reprint of the October 12 Chief's Report.

OPERATIONS

Significant Alarms

Wildland Interface Fire

September 26, 2022, Monroe: SRFR units responded to a brush fire in the Monroe area north of the Skykomish River near the railroad tracks. Responders arrived to find a 30' X 30' fire involving grass, brush, and trees near a homeless encampment. The Burlington Northern rail line and the eastbound lanes of Hwy. 2 were closed to conduct firefighting operations. The fire was successfully extinguished with no injuries to civilians or responders. Assisting agencies included Snohomish County Fire District 4, the Department of Natural Resources, Washington State Patrol, and Monroe Police. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal.

Brush Fire

September 22, 2022, 1:30 a.m., Monroe: SRFR units with Snohomish County Fire District 5 responded to a report of a brush fire in heavy timber in Monroe near Highway 2. Responders arrived to find a 20' X 20' brush fire 50 feet from the Burlington Northern rail line. Highway 2 was shut down for firefighting operations. The fire was successfully extinguished with no injuries to civilians or responders. The cause of the fire is being investigated by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal.

Gun Shot Victim

September 19, 2022, West Battalion: SRFR units responded with South County Fire to a report of a shooting with Washington State Patrol on location. Responders staged while the scene was being secured by police. Once cleared, responders assisted an adult male who had multiple gunshot wounds to his chest/shoulder area. The patient was transported to Providence Medical Center in Everett.



Brush Fire

September 19, 2022, Monroe: SRFR units responded to a large, fast moving, brush fire approximately seven acres in size behind Walmart. This is a known area with multiple homeless camps and lots of debris. The crews did an excellent job with an aggressive fire attack on two separate flanks.

Responders arrived to find a 50' x 50' fast moving brush fire and then established Galaxy Command. The fire was just east of Galaxy Road and north of Walmart and was moving rapidly up the hill to the north and the east towards the gravel road. There was a significant wind out of the west that was pushing the fire to the east towards Chain Lake Road. The fire was eventually estimated at seven acres. There were no injuries to civilians or responders. The fire is being investigated by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal. The cause of the fire is undetermined. Twenty-five units responded to the fire. Special thanks to assisting agencies; Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Snohomish County Fire District 5, Snohomish County Fire District 4, Snohomish County Fire Marshal, and Monroe Police.

Emergency Medical Services

SRFR Student Paramedics

Four employees started their paramedic training at Central Washington University on September 21. Congratulations to Student Paramedics Brady O'Brien, Aaron DeSalvo, Jacob Curti, and Thomas Brown!

Interfacility Transport

Units from East Battalion assisted in the transport of a patient from Evergreen Health Monroe to a Seattle hospital. Evergreen Health requested SRFR's Lucas Device and transport capabilities to transfer a patient to the Seattle location. SRFR appreciates assisting regional partners with our highly trained personnel and advanced equipment.

Ultrasound Diagnostics

SRFR received an ultrasound device and are working with area physicians to provide our paramedics with the necessary training, so we are able to utilize the device to assist patients. Implementing this state-of-the-art technology will improve our diagnostic capabilities in a continuous effort to deliver the best patient care.

Training & Safety

Acting Captain Brian Kees

The Training/Health and Safety Division welcomed Acting Captain Brian Kees to the team. We are excited for his energy and contribution going forward. He will be primarily focused on supporting the training needs of the District.



Fourth Quarter Training

Fourth quarter training has been posted on Target Solutions. The Engine Committee will offer hands on training with the new 2.25” hose to demonstrate our expanded operability.

Annual Physicals

Annual Physicals were conducted via our mobile health partner Professional Health Services (PHS). The PHS physicals offer a full physical, comprehensive lab, and a personal wellness profile for each participant. These components are part of the District’s Wellness Initiative along with the Peer Fitness & Peer Support Teams.

Snohomish County Fire Training Academy (SCFTA)

The Snohomish County Fire Training Academy (SCFTA) Class 22-02 has completed the engine curriculum and is now moving on to the truck curriculum starting with ground ladders. The recruits and company officers are working hard and progressing well through the process. We currently have 13 recruits in the academy.

Live Fire Training

Annual live fire training has been scheduled for December. This planning process was delayed due to limited facilities that can support this training. Thank you to Snohomish County Fire District 26 for partnering with SRFR for the use of their facility.

Driver Operator Promotional Exam

The Driver Operator promotional exam is in process with the candidates having already completed the written test and the hands-on practical components. The oral interview is the last step in the testing process. It was noted that candidates have come to the process well prepared and displayed a high level of competency. Good luck to all candidates participating in the process!

PLANNING

Community Relations

Coffee with the Chief and Crews

Thursday, October 6, SRFR responders and staff helped the baristas at the Frontier Village Starbucks serve coffee to the community. The event was a success with some excellent baristas in training who under the supervision of highly trained purveyors of coffee served up some outstanding beverages to the citizens of Lake Stevens.

School Visits

- Kinder Scheduled: Fryelands Elem. (3 Classes), Mt. Pilchuck Elem. (5 Classes)
Working on creating a training video to refresh crews on Toys vs. Tools. Reaching out to Schools in the Spring.
- 1st Grade Scheduled: Fryelands Elem. (4 Classes)
- 2nd Grade Scheduled: Salem Woods Elem. (4 Classes)



Reaching out to schools to get 2nd Grade classes scheduled this Fall.

- High School Scheduled: Cavelero Mid High-Impact Teen Driver (12 Classes), Career Tour for Automotive Students

Adult & Senior Safety Classes YTD: 7

- 10.12.22: Online Disaster Preparedness Class
- 10.26.22: Aging in Place Class at Monroe Senior Center
- 11.16.22: Aging in Place Class: Lake Stevens Senior Center
- 12.07.22: Disaster Preparedness Class: Lake Stevens Senior Center

Upcoming Community Events:

- 10.06.22: Starbucks Coffee with the Chief & Crew
- 10.12.22: Monroe Walk to School Day
- 10.15.22: Fire Prevention Week Open House
- 10.31.22: Lake Stevens & Monroe Harvest Festivals
- 11.19.22: Lake Stevens Toy Drive

Social Media Snapshot, September 14 – October 4

- 63 Posts
- 477 New Followers/Accounts
- 305,323 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

External Media

- Monroe Woodlands Brush Fire Was Likely Accidental – SnoHo Tribune
- Huber House Painting – The Epoch Times
- Monroe Brush Fire – KIRO, KOMO, Everett Herald
- Interface Fire Disrupts Morning Commute – Everett Post

Internal Media

- Fall 2022 Newsletter
- Galaxy Way Brush Fire
- Station 33 Crews Rebuild Fall Victim's Steps
- Upgraded Outdoor Burning Ban
- Open House Promotions GFX and Sparky Video
- Coffee with the Chief and Crew
- First Day of Paramedic School
- CFAI Peer Assessor Team Recommendation
- Pedestrian Safety Month
- Disaster Preparedness



Website

PIEO King and PIEO Mongillo are working with our webmaster to update the SRFR website with current content on the following pages:

- About Us Section and Recruitment/Employment Pages
- Station Locations
- Overall website usability

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Human Resources

2022 Retirements

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Craig Clinton on his retirement!! After 35+ years with the District, his final day of service will be October 31, 2022. Please join us at the retirement celebration to honor his contributions to the District and wish him well on his next adventure. The retirement celebration is Monday, October 31, 2022 at Station 71, beginning at 0900.

Congratulations to Driver/Operator Jeff Chichester on his retirement!! After 21+ years with the District, his final day of service will be October 26, 2022. Please join us in thanking him for his dedicated service to our District and communities! We wish him the best as he moves on to new adventures. Stay tuned for any update regarding a potential retirement celebration.

2023 Retirements – Request for Retiree Medical Benefits

Official retirement notices for 2023 have been submitted and received. SRFR had five (5) official notices of intent to retire come in prior to the October 1 deadline. Of the five, four are eligible for retiree medical benefits. Requests for retiree medical benefits per Resolution 2019-14 will soon come before the Board for review and approval.

Promotions/New Hires

Congratulations to our very own Kaitlin King! Effective October 1, 2022, her position is being reclassified from a Public Education Specialist to a Public Information & Education Officer. In her new role, she will continue to focus on Public Education and Peter will continue to focus on Public Information. With this change, the Community Relations Division moves to a more integrated service model allowing for Kaitlin and Peter to fully support and backfill for each other as needed. Again, congratulations Kaitlin!

Welcome to SRFR's new Confidential Support HR Admin Isa Quevedo! Isa comes to us with over seven years of administrative support experience in the medical, legal, and utility fields. Both internal and external panel members felt she would be a great addition to the team, and we couldn't agree more! Her values align with the organization's values and her friendly, customer service focus is a natural fit with the division. Isa joins us on Monday, October 10th. Welcome Isa!



Administration

Entry Level Chief's Interviews

Staff are in the process of interviewing entry level paramedic and firefighter candidates. Successful candidates will be hired in January of 2023 and will attend a fire academy in mid-February. Our goal is to hire 20 new responders.

Snohomish Fire District 4

Senior Staff from SRFR and Snohomish Fire District 4 began meeting monthly (Tuesday, 10/4) to discuss improved and expanded potential partnerships.

Take care and safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief