



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

## **Chief's Report**

**May 30, 2022**

### **OPERATIONS**

#### **FF DO D.J. Mattern and Lt. Jamal Beckham**

Firefighter/Driver-Operator D.J. Mattern and Lieutenant Paramedic Jamal Beckham have been selected by the Washington State Veterans of Foreign Wars for Firefighter/EMT of the year. They will be honored on Friday, June 17 in Spokane at the Washington State VFW annual banquet. Both individuals have been excellent emergency responders throughout their careers. They are true professionals who deliver a high level of service at every alarm.

Lt. Jamal Beckham is a 19-year veteran of the fire service and is the county lead for water rescue. Jamal is responsible to manage and oversee the 40 members of the water rescue team. DJ Mattern is a 20-year veteran of the fire service and has been a member of the water rescue team for many years. Lt Beckham and DJ Mattern are also active members with Snohomish County Technical Rescue team. They are both currently assigned to Station 31 in downtown Monroe.

#### **Significant Alarms**

##### **Abandoned Structure Fire**

On May 9, 2022 East Battalion units responded to a Residential Structure Fire in the area of Woods Creek Road and Ingraham Road, but no specific address was given to the responding units. B31 and E32 arrived and found a fully involved structure that was visible through the trees, but access was not easily identified due to multiple unmarked driveways. The firefighters were able to find access, and found a grain silo on fire. It was located on an abandoned property with no life hazard. Due to difficult access and no water supply in this area, the crews allowed the structure to burn while ensuring that no exposures were damaged.

##### **Stork Detail**

East Battalion crews responded to and delivered a beautiful baby in a parking lot. Both mother and baby were transported to an area hospital and are doing well.

#### **Emergency Medical Services**

Lieutenant Lisa Defenbaugh and Lieutenant Nate Dillon were moved to long-term Acting Captain positions in the EMS Division as shift MSO's. Congratulations to both members on this new assignment!



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

### **Training & Safety**

#### **Washington Fire Chief's Association Conference**

Staff attended the Annual Washington Fire Chief's Association Conference May 23 through May 26 in Wenatchee, WA. The Association held their annual business meeting and elected Lacey, WA fire Chief Steve Brooks as the new President.

Presentations included:

- Cyber Security (Presented by AC Guptill – Nice job!)
- Human factors in performance
- Ethical leadership
- Behavior health for responders
- Peer support for responders
- Diversity and inclusion
- Other excellent classes

### **LOGISTICS**

#### **Apparatus and Vehicle Replacement Plan**

Staff are in the process of auditing and updating the SRFR Apparatus and Vehicle Replacement Plan. The Plan tracks the future replacement for district's fleet of fire engines, ladder trucks, aid units, and all other vehicles. Staff anticipates presenting the updated Plan to the Board and Finance Committee on May 31.

Staff have been working on updating the Apparatus Replacement Plan.

Each division has been engaged to identify the specific apparatus needs to ensure that our fleet meets their needs.

One of the main motivations of the update is to group the purchasing of each vehicle classification together. This grouping allows for potential savings from multiple ordering discounts and more importantly standardizes the operations and capabilities of the vehicles.

This also allows us to better plan to reduce the impacts brought on with the unprecedented supply chain challenges. These challenges have made it necessary to commit to purchasing vehicles in virtually every classification at least one year and in some cases two years prior to their anticipated arrival and purchase.

The plan will always be considered under revision as it requires constant updating to maintain it in the most accurate and useful manner. We will be prepared to present the updated plan at the next Finance Committee meeting and subsequent Board meeting.



## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

### **Human Resources**

#### **Vaccine Mandate Accommodation Review**

Following Board direction, staff have been working with all employees on an approved reasonable accommodation related to Proclamation 21-14 and Board Policy 921. Consistent with the proclamation and policy, we have addressed the current and new options for employees to consider including returning to duty.

Of the 14 employees currently on approved reasonable accommodations due to Proclamation 21-14 and Board Policy 921, SRFR has:

- Six (6) employees returning June 1, 2022
- Five (5) employees reviewing and evaluating their individual circumstances and the option to return to work
- One (1) employee remaining on the current accommodation and retiring June 30, 2022
- One (1) employee resigned to pursue a new career
- One (1) employee has not yet been available to meet with HR

We look forward to our firefighters returning to duty.

With sincere appreciation to our staff, commissioners, and community,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief