



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

Chief's Report

December 21, 2022

Mission

Save lives, protect property, safeguard the environment, take care of people.

OPERATIONS

Significant Alarms

Motor Vehicle Collision/Water Rescue

East Battalion, December 19, 2022, 1:00 p.m.: SRFR was dispatched to a Motor Vehicle Collision with a possible vehicle off the roadway submerged in water. Medic 32 arrived, located a vehicle in a creek in approximately three feet of water with a patient sitting on the roof. The patient's vehicle had left the roadway and landed in a creek bed. The patient had self-extricated and called 911. Battalion 31 arrived, established command, and communicated an Incident Action Plan with a Firefighter/Swift Water Rescue Technicians on scene. Engine 33 arrived and deployed a ground ladder to the hood of the vehicle and Firefighter/Swift Water Rescue Technicians assisted the uninjured patient safely to the shore.

Fire Suppression / Special Operations

Lake Stevens WinterFest

Boat 81 was decorated by the on-duty crew and deployed to lead the WinterFest Boat Parade on Saturday evening, December 3rd. Additionally firefighters delivered Santa on Engine 81 to the Lake Stevens WinterFest Tree Lighting at North Cove Park that same evening. Both Engine 81 and Medic 81 gave tours of the engine and handed out stickers and fire helmets.

Lake Stevens Vikings 4A State Championship Win

Engine 82 escorted the Lake Stevens Vikings football team through town on their return trip from the 4A State Championship win on Friday December 2nd. Lake Stevens won their first state football title by beating Kennedy Catholic for the 4A title.

<https://www.seattletimes.com/sports/high-school/lake-stevens-wins-first-state-football-title-beating-kennedy-catholic-for-4a-crown/>

Station 76 Transition

On December 13, at 8:00 a.m., Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue transferred fire, rescue, and emergency services provided to the City of Mill Creek to South County Fire and Rescue. The morning of December 13th, SRFR crews transitioned out of Station 76 and South County crews moved in. The transition process was well coordinated thanks to the Firefighters, Logistics Staff, and many others.



Emergency Medical Services

Recertifications

The Medical Service Officer (MSO) group received positive feedback from Snohomish County EMS regarding their professional and proactive approach to the large volume of pending recertifications. The MSOs continue to work hard at providing training on processing paperwork.

Paramedic Students

The four Paramedic students have successfully completed their first 10 weeks at Central Washington University. Our students are performing well and continue to make progress through the program.

Training & Safety

Probationary Firefighter Completion

Congratulations to Cody Mack, Perry Taylor, Sam Stevens, Oleg Mikhaylov and Brandon Neville on their completion of the SRFR Probationary Firefighter requirements. These employees have developed a strong foundation of EMS and firefighting skills over this period. They will be promoted to the Firefighter 1 classification on January 1, 2023. Thank you for all the support and mentorship that the crews and Battalions have given these new firefighters.

New Hire Class 23-01

Recruit Class 23-01 will be arriving on January 2, 2023, to begin their preparations for the Snohomish County Fire Training Academy (SCFTA). The pre-academy preparations focus on onboarding, orientation, team building, injury prevention, and prerequisite hands-on training. The recruit class will begin the academy on February 6. Company officers for the next academy are currently being selected and will be assigned to the SCFTA on January 30.

Wellness Incentive

The SRFR Peer Fitness and Peer Support Teams are busy assisting employees in their completion of the SRFR Wellness Incentive components. For employees that participate in this voluntary wellness program there is an incentive outlined in the collective bargaining agreement. The goals of the program are increased total health and injury prevention.

Deputy Chief McConnell

Effective January 1, 2023, Deputy Chief McConnell will be moving to the Logistics Section to help SRFR build for the future. With the number of projects on the horizon for SRFR, it will be good to have D.C. McConnell's skills and positive energy on the Logistics Team.

We thank D.C. McConnell for his great work in the Training Division.

A new Deputy Chief of Training and Safety will soon be assigned.



PLANNING

Community Relations

2022 Public Education Summary

School Visits / Total Reached: **2027 Students**

Kinder/1st Grade: **12 Classes, 302 Students**

2nd Grade: **42 Classes, 1050 Students**

High School: **27 Classes, 675 Students**

Adult & Senior Safety Classes:

Home Fire Safety: **2**

Disaster Preparedness: **6**

Aging in Place: **4**

Fire Extinguisher (Taught by Deputy FM & Fire Inspector): **5**

Community Events/Partnerships:

16 Public Education Community Events: 10,276 Reached

39 PR Events: 4448 Reached

46 Interactions/Visits/Partnerships with Community Groups

Newsletters:

4 Newsletter editions sent to all residences in the district reaching up to **53,000** households per edition.

Upcoming Community Events:

- **2.18.22:** Scout Open House

Public Information:

Social Media Snapshot: November 16 – December 14

- 68 Posts
- 98 New Followers/Accounts
- 16,321 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

External Media:

- SRFR Responds to Airplane Crash – Many reports across the news
- SRFR Responds to Garbage Truck Crash
 - <https://www.q13fox.com/news/westbound-us-2-blocked-in-monroe-following-semi-truck-rollover-crash>



Internal Media:

- Fryelands Elementary Appreciation
- Toy Drive
- Edmonds School District Met with SRFR Mechanics
- Holiday Safety Messaging
- Thanksgiving Crews Working
- Driving in Winter Conditions Tips
- Lake Stevens WinterFest
- SRFR Water Rescue Crews Train in Snowy Conditions
- SRFR Recruit Graduation
- Scout Day Promotion
- SRFR Live Fire Training
- Penny Coyne Artwork Donation
- Ladder 72

Thanks to our awesome PIEO team for developing and producing the excellent 2021 Annual Report and Quarterly Newsletter!

LOGISTICS

Logistics

Maintenance Shop Remodel

On December 8th staff met with Rice Fergus Miller and their engineers for a kickoff meeting at Station 31 for the Station 31 Shop addition project. Rice Fergus Miller will be working with the engineers and their architects in the next couple months to prepare construction documents for the shop project.

Station 76 Sale

Logistics staff with the assistance of on-duty crews facilitated the move/transition from Station 76 to Station 72 on December 12th. Thank you for all your hard work in making the transition as smooth as possible.

The sale of the District's interest in Station 76 to the City of Mill Creek closed on 12/14/22.

ADMINISTRATION

Mel Jenkins

Congratulations to Mel Jenkins who is being promoted to District Administrative Coordinator. We thank Mel for all her work in Logistics and look forward to working with her in her new role. Thanks to all who participated in the process. Congrats Mel!



Snohomish Fire District 4

Senior Staff from SRFR and Snohomish Fire District 4 continue to discuss improved and expanded potential partnerships. More meetings are planned with leadership in 2023.

Red Cross Northwest Hero's Breakfast

Commissioners and Staff attended the annual Red Cross Northwest Hero's Breakfast at the Tulalip Casino. The event highlights responders and citizens who have helped others in a time of need.

2022 Year in Review

2022 has been a year of significant challenges, transition, and growth for Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue. Our mission comes first, and our firefighters and paramedics continued to provide outstanding service through challenges in staffing. Fortunately, our team rose to the challenge and continues to deliver excellent service to the community.

Highlights for 2022 included:

- 911 responses to emergencies - Fulfilling the mission
- Snohomish County Regional Training – Recruit Firefighter Academies
- Positive labor relations
- “Norming” through the merger process
- CFAI Peer Assessor nomination for Agency Accreditation
- Washington Survey and Rating improved to a “3” throughout the District
- Organizational accountability
- Improved budget process
- Standards of Coverage update
- Strategic Plan maintenance
- Board of Fire Commissioners Governance
- Fourteen retirements
- Hiring 27 new firefighters
- Promotions – Two Captains, Three Temporary Captains, Two Battalion Chiefs
- Capital Project Initiation – Station 83 and Shop

While 2022 was a positive year of growth for Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue, there were some significant challenges for the agency:

- The Governor's Vaccine Mandate
- Paramedic and Firefighter staffing shortage
- Fire and Life Safety staffing shortage
- Administrative staffing shortage
- Mill Creek service transition
- Inflation



2023 looks to be a year of growth and moving forward. We will continue to welcome entry level Firefighters, build our Paramedic positions, and add inspectors. Additionally, we will continue to hire support staff in Administration, and IT. Other highlights for 2023 include:

- Training programs
- Working with Fire Dist. 4
- Maintenance Shop remodel
- Station 83 remodel
- Delivery of five fire engines
- Initiating Station projects
 - Station 81
 - Station 32
 - Station 72

Importantly, in 2023, priority one will be performing our mission of saving lives, protecting property, safeguarding the environment, and taking care of people.

Thanks to Team SRFR! It has been a great year and I look forward to moving forward with all of you in 2023.

With sincere appreciation,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief