



## **Chief's Report**

**May 9, 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

### **Promotions**

Congratulations to our newly promoted Deputy Fire Marshal 1 Leroy Schwartz. DFM Schwarz was promoted effective May 1st.

Ratification of the IAFF 2023-2025 CBA on March 14th provided for retitling and rank recognition of positions within the Office of the Fire Marshal. Congratulations to (Cpt) Senior Deputy Fire Marshal Jason Bowen, (Lt1) Deputy Fire Marshal 1 Craig Fisher and (Lt2) Deputy Fire Marshal 1 Dave LeDuc.

## **OPERATIONS**

### **Significant Alarms**

#### **Rescue from a Tree**

Crews responded to a male, 30' up a tree, with a chainsaw injury to his right thigh. The patient was pinned to the tree by the upper portion that he had just cut. B31 arrived and established command. Initially a rescue technician accessed the victim via a ground ladder and applied a tourniquet to his injured leg, then secured the patient. The rescue technician then removed the upper portion of the tree. L33 accessed the victim via their aerial ladder and removed him from the tree. The patient was removed from the tree and was transported to Providence in Everett within 13 minutes of crews arriving on scene. Great job by all the crews!

#### **Brush Fire**

On April 4th crews in the East Battalion responded to a 50' x 50' brush fire in Al Borlin Park. The crews used 500' of hose to attack the fire, and it was supplied by a portable pump drafting water from the river. Crews quickly contained and extinguished the fire.



### **High-Speed Motor Vehicle Collision**

On April 4th crews responded to a high-speed, head-on collision with two ALS patients and one BLS patient. The collision occurred on Old Snohomish-Monroe Highway. One patient was found ejected from the vehicle. Another victim had to be extricated by the crews on scene. The extrication was difficult, and the crews did a great job to quickly get the victim out and transported to the hospital. M31, M41, and A31 transported the three patients.

### **Emergency Medical Services**

#### **Reserve EMS Apparatus**

We now have three reserve EMS units that have been stocked by MSO Jerry Aamold. These units are located at Stations 31, 33, and 81. Some equipment will still need to be moved over, but this process should be smoother than in the recent past. One more EMS unit will be stocked to provide four stocked reserve units in total.

#### **CODE-STAT**

MSO Matt Ball was able to work with Stryker and has streamlined our annotation process for cardiac arrests. This will greatly increase our feedback to crews and improve our care.

### **Training & Safety**

#### **Prescription Safety Glasses Program**

The Health & Safety Committee has reviewed the Prescription Safety Glasses program that we had years ago. The District has formed a partnership with Monroe Vision Clinic who has a location in Monroe and in Snohomish, making it convenient for our three battalions to use. Employees that have a prescription can now visit the clinic to be fitted for safety glasses.

#### **Thank You for an Amazing Turnout!**

We just completed our mandatory firefighter annual physicals and had a 91% participation rate with Professional Health Services (PHS) on-site medical trailer. We conduct these occupational physicals all on-duty, so considering training that is assigned, responding to emergency calls, and participating in community activities, we had an amazing turnout. Thank you all for working so diligently with Health & Safety to accomplish this!

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Community Relations**

#### **Public Information**

Social Media Snapshot: March 21 – April 30, 2024



- 69 Posts
- 84 New Followers/Accounts
- 152,951 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

External Media:

4/9/24 Snohomish County Tribune "Crews conduct fire training burns before curious audience."  
<https://www.snoho.com/news/2024/apr/17/crews-conduct-fire-training-burns-before-curious-audience/>

4/18/24 KOMO "'It's concerning': Firefighters gear up after early drought declared in Washington"  
<https://komonews.com/news/local/western-washington-climate-state-department-of-ecology-everett-seattle-tacoma-metro-areas-bolt-creek-wildfire-2022-snohomish-regional-fire-and-rescue-snowpack-wet-dry-climate-human-behavior->

4/24/24 KIRO "Snohomish County woman urges safety changes after Tesla on autopilot crashed, killed fiancé"  
<https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/snohomish-county-woman-urges-safety-changes-after-tesla-autopilot-crashed-killed-fianc/W5775WNFGRF2RERDTMCPZGRGBM>

Internal Media:

- Job Postings
- Train the Trainer Swiftwater Classes
- Ray Kosiba Retirement
- Future Women in EMS & Fire
- Spring Newsletter
- Ron Adams Retirement
- Snohomish Live Fire Training
- Mindy Leber Retirement
- Snohomish County Tech Rescue Academy
- Lake Stevens Lake Water Quality
- Telecommunicators Week
- Al Borlin Park Brush Fire
- Water Safety Camp Promo

**Office of the Fire Marshal**

**Deputy Fire Marshal Staffing and Promotions**

FF Leroy Schwartz has been promoted to the vacant Deputy Fire Marshal 1 position and D/O Sean Dahl has been appointed as a long-term acting Deputy Fire Marshal 1 (Schwartz and Dahl have been serving in the Fire Marshal's Office for the last two years as a long-term actor and



light duty assignment respectively). The Fire Marshal's Office has experienced a significant increase in demands for service that warrant the long-term acting position. While LTA DFM Dahl's assignment is temporary, we will be seeking approval for a permanent Deputy Fire Marshal 1 position in the 2025 Budget. We don't anticipate any budget adjustments for this in 2024.

### **Increase in Demands for Fire Marshal Services**

As part of a larger study, the OFM has completed a 3-year study that aimed to establish data points for its workload. This included tracking plan review, permit inspections, annual fire safety inspections, fire investigations, program administration, and supervision tasks. Plan reviews have increased by 56% from 633 in 2021 to 992 in 2023. Construction permit inspections have increased by 67% from 759 in 2021 to 1,271 in 2023. The total number of annual fire safety inspections needed to be completed is 2,117. To meet WSRB, the OFM is required to complete at least 90%, which is 1,905 inspections annually for full credit. WSRB compliance may result in a reduction to a class 2 PPC in our cities.

### **Interlocal Agreements**

Last year, the Board of Commissioners approved a new template interlocal agreement and fee schedule for contracting our fire marshal services. Both city of Lake Stevens and Monroe are now actively engaged in updating their agreements. The city of Monroe will be adopting our new fee schedule for implementation in June.

### **Strategic Analysis**

#### **Dark Horse Analytics**

The team is working closely with the Dark Horse Emergency to set up the SRFR interface with the Dark Horse response analytics platform. GIS Coordinator Elsa Sexton has provided large amounts of historical response data and updated geographic information system (GIS) map layers to support the process. This platform will help the agency evaluate the effectiveness of our current emergency capabilities and how to support future community growth.

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