

# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

PROMOTIONS:



Congratulations to newly promoted Deputy Fire Marshal **Sean Dahl!**



Congratulations to newly promoted Lieutenant **Marck Fujiwara-Herbert!**



Congratulations to newly promoted Battalion Chief **Brandon Gardner!**

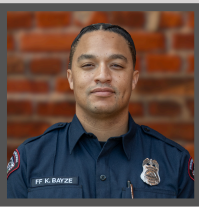


Congratulations to newly promoted Battalion Chief **Ryan Lowe!**

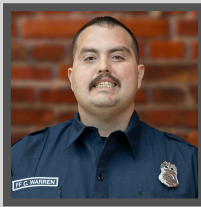


Congratulations to Battalion Chief **Matt Bernethy** on his retirement after 35 years in the fire service!

NEW HIRES:



Join us in welcoming our new lateral hires (from left to right): Firefighter **Kaine Bayze**, Firefighter **Kaden Keogh**, Firefighter/Paramedic **Warren Carson**, and Firefighter **Conner Mitchell**. These positions were filled to replace vacancies due to retirements & attrition.



RETIREMENTS:



Congratulations to Fleet Mechanic **Dave Jonker** on his retirement after 22 years at SRFR!



## A PULSE ON SRFR EMS

A recap of 2024 EMS.



In 2024, SRFR provided emergency medical services to the cities of Lake Stevens, Monroe, and surrounding unincorporated areas, and responded to about 10,000 EMS calls over the course of the year. Because EMS incidents make up the majority of our call volume, the SRFR EMS Division strives to deliver excellent care on every EMS call whether patients require Advanced Life Support (ALS) or Basic Life Support (BLS). ALS, which is provided by SRFR paramedics, is a level of prehospital medical care that includes advanced medical procedures, such as intubation, medication administration, and defibrillation. Whereas, BLS focuses on basic life-saving techniques, such as CPR, airway management, and AED use.

Along with responding to calls, SRFR Firefighter/EMTs and Firefighter/Paramedics undergo rigorous training in order to maintain the highest level of service. In 2024, SRFR EMS personnel completed 3,744 hours of EMS program related training. Along with developing new and cutting-edge lesson plans for EMS training, the EMS Division is constantly assessing and monitoring calls in order to improve patient care. They do this by frequently reviewing ALS calls with our supervising physician who is responsible for reviewing incidents and providing ALS level training to SRFR's Paramedics.

Due to the latest advancements in intubation technology and the consistent, high-quality training that SRFR provides to its Paramedics, SRFR Paramedics achieved a 91% first-pass success rate for intubation in 2024. According to the Annals of Emergency Medicine<sup>1</sup>, the national average first-pass success rate for intubation is 68.5%. "First-pass success" for intubation means that the breathing tube was successfully placed in the trachea on the first attempt. Intubation is the process of inserting a breathing tube into a patient's trachea to take over breathing due to the fact that the airway is compromised. Along with the video laryngoscopes that have helped improve these first pass rates, SRFR EMS is constantly looking into the latest and best technology that can ensure that our EMTs and Paramedics are able to deliver the utmost quality prehospital patient care.

<sup>1</sup> Association Between Emergency Medical Service Agency Intubation Rate and Intubation Success  
Thomas, Jordan et al. Annals of Emergency Medicine, Volume 84, Issue 1, 1 - 8



Learn more about the SRFR EMS here:



SCAN ME



BE SURE YOUR HELMET FITS!



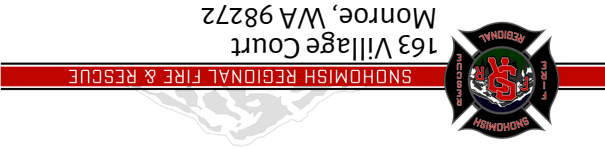
- Always wear a helmet.
- Wear brightly colored clothes to be seen better.
- Make sure to ride on the sidewalk, and stay away from cars.
- Always stop at STOP signs and traffic lights.
- If you need to cross a street, walk your bike across; don't ride.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Spring is a season of growth and renewal, and Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) is proud of the progress we have already made in 2025. As we look ahead, we are committed to enhancing and strengthening services to our community. Thanks to your continued support, we are making significant strides in advancing our mission, and we remain dedicated to providing the highest level of service to you and your neighbors.

We are happy to announce the completion of a remodel to our state-of-the-art maintenance shop. Our skilled mechanics allow SRFR to be mission-ready 24/7, 365. The facility also supports additional organizations, enhancing the efficiency and reliability of our operations and those of our neighboring communities. This is just one example of how we are working to improve our resources for the public good.

Additionally, we are making steady progress on the design of Station 32. This new station will improve response times and expand our ability to serve the Chain Lake and North Monroe areas. We are also advancing the design process for the rebuild of Station 81 in downtown Lake Stevens to better serve this rapidly growing community.

In line with our commitment to continuous improvement, we have launched the SRFR Community Advisory Committee. This group of community leaders provides valuable input on operations, strategic planning, and initiatives. We deeply value the perspectives of our residents, and continuous feedback plays a vital role in shaping SRFR's future.

Beyond the Community Advisory Committee, we continue to strengthen our relationships with community members through outreach, education, and participation in local events. We remain committed to responding to the needs of our residents and value ongoing conversations and collaboration.

At SRFR, people are at the heart of everything we do. Whether it is the individuals we serve or our dedicated team members, we understand our mission is to take care of people. Additionally, we are committed to using our resources wisely, ensuring every dollar spent strengthens our ability to provide critical services.

Your support makes this possible, and we are honored to serve you. Thank you for being an essential part of the SRFR family, we look forward to achieving more together.

Take Care, and Stay Safe,  
Kevin O'Brien  
Fire Chief



FIREHOUSE FEATURE



MECHANIC SHOP

The fire service is known for the variety of vehicles used to respond to all types of emergencies. Whether it's a fire engine, ambulance, or technical rescue rig responding to a call, it is important that these vehicles are fully functioning and safe for our SRFR team members and for those that they may be helping. At the helm of this important work is Shop Foreman John Thomas and his team of mechanics.



For over 15 years, the mechanics have worked in a small indoor bay and a large outdoor tent which was often exposed to cold and harsh weather. This past

February, SRFR mechanics celebrated the ribbon cutting of their newly remodeled shop, marking an end to the days spent working on vehicles in the outdoor tent. This new space will provide a safer, more efficient workspace for shop mechanics to maintain the district's large fleet of apparatus. This new expansion adds 3,100 square feet of modern workspace to the existing shop, and it includes a 2,000-square-foot carport to better protect reserve apparatus from the elements. Construction began in July 2024, and we are proud to announce that the project was completed on budget and ahead of schedule. This was made possible thanks to the incredible support of our community and Fire Commissioners, who recognized the need for an improved facility to keep apparatus in top condition for emergency response.

Shop Operations Manager, John Thomas, had the honor of cutting the ribbon, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the shop. He and the fleet mechanics work to maintain and service all of SRFR's vehicles. They not only work under the hoods of 20-ton fire engines, but also service and maintain up to 380 vehicles a year!



UPCOMING EVENTS

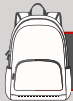
- **July 8th:** Water Safety Camp-Lake Tye
  - Registration open!
  - Scan the QR to register!
- **July 11th-13th:** Aquafest
- **July 16th:** Water Safety Camp-Lundeen Park
  - Registration open!
  - Scan the QR to register!
- **August 5th:** NNO
- **October 4th:** Fire Prevention Week Open House



WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS



This past January, 23,707 acres burned in the Palisades Fire in Los Angeles. Large-scale wildfires like this one can act as a somber reminder that it is important to take steps to understand how wildfires can affect us in Snohomish County, and it is important to learn what we can do to prepare for a wildfire and what we can do to keep our homes and properties safe. SRFR sent a crew to assist with the devastating fires in LA in January, and our crews are always prepared to respond to wildfires and brush fires that take place in our own community. SRFR has four brush trucks specifically designed to fight wildfire. The district also has 200 Firefighters trained to combat local wildland fires. In addition to this, SRFR has 25 members that are part of our Wildland Team and can deploy up to 5 of those members anywhere in the country as needed. In addition, as a part of their initial training, every newly-hired SRFR Firefighter completes their Red Card training which certifies them to fight wildland fires. Our SRFR fire crews are ready in the event of a fire. Here are some ways that you can stay ready as well:



Prepare Supplies & Landscape

- Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.
- If available, store an N95 mask to protect yourself from smoke.
- Keep your cell phone charged when wildfires could be in your area, and purchase backup charging devices to power electronics.
- Have enough supplies for your household, including a first aid kit, in your go bag or car trunk.



Be Informed & Learn

- Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov), for more information about how you and your family can prepare for a disaster.
- Follow the QR code above to view the **Snohomish County Public Safety Hub**.
- Take a class. Register for our next **Wildfire Preparedness Class**:
  - May 7th, 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
  - Go to [www.SRFR.org](http://www.SRFR.org) to register!



ADULT & SENIOR SAFETY CLASSES

Aging in Place

February 19  
May 14  
November 12

Disaster Preparedness

April 9  
September 10  
December 10

Wildfire Preparedness

February 18  
May 7

Home Fire Safety

March 12  
October 8

Register online or request an in-person class at [www.SRFR.org](http://www.SRFR.org).



PREVENTING WINDOW FALLS

As spring approaches and the weather becomes nicer, we tend to start opening our windows at home to allow the fresh air in. This is also the time of year that medical professionals see a spike in youth window falls. Falls are more common than we think. Every year almost 5,000 children are injured after a window fall, and most of the children are between 2 to 5 years old. Children are curious by nature, anatomically top heavy, and can fall through a window opened more than 4 inches. Any fall through a window is dangerous, even if the child is on the first floor of the home.

Here are three things you can do to reduce the risk of a window fall:

1 INSTALL WINDOW GUARDS AND STOPS

Never open windows more than 4 inches to prevent young children from falling out. Remember, screens are meant to keep bugs out, not children in. Properly installed window guards prevent unintentional falls. Install window guards that include an emergency release device in case of a fire. Window stops are also a great idea. They allow fresh air and a cross breeze and still ensure windows cannot open wide enough for kids to fall out.

2 CLOSE WINDOWS AFTER USE

If you have windows that can open from both top and bottom, make a habit of opening just the top to prevent accidental falls. Keep in mind that as kids grow, they may have enough strength, dexterity and curiosity to open the bottom, so try to keep windows locked and closed when they are not being used. If you visit a place where windows are not childproofed, close and lock them during your visit, and watch your child carefully.

3 KEEP KIDS FROM CLIMBING NEAR WINDOWS

Move chairs, tables, cribs and other furniture away from windows to help prevent window falls. Also, teach children not to play near windows. Make it a house rule to play at least 2 feet from windows. Never move a child who appears to be seriously injured after a fall – call 911, and let trained medical personnel move the child.

For more prevention tips visit <https://www.safekids.org/falls>



S E N I O R