



The Connection



Reputation Management

Does it seem like lately every time you pick up a newspaper or watch the evening news there is a story which paints a negative image of a particular Firefighter, Fire Department, or the Fire Service in general? Unfortunately it happens all too often, and many times it's not just those directly involved who are negatively affected. Sometimes these stories are unjustified, and sometimes we are our own worst enemy.

Much of how we are perceived by the public, other members of the public service community, and the elected government officials we work for, is based on our collective reputations and how what we do, (both on and off duty) is viewed by the media and those around us. Something as simple as a crew having a loud, raucous conversation in a restaurant, can lead to the perception that the crew is not business-like or respectful, or could be viewed as arrogant and obtrusive. So what happens when that crew is seated next to a news reporter who is researching a story on how the community invests its tax dollars? Or a governmental official who is weighing the difficult decision of what departments should have lay-offs due to the current state of the economy? No matter what the scenario it is up to every member of our Department to "manage" their collective reputations.

So what can we do? Well it all starts with personal accountability and setting expectations of behavior for our department members. Allowing our members to wear their department t-shirts while off duty may be acceptable, however there needs to be a clear expectation of how a member behaves when wearing the department logo and a defined set of consequences when those expectations are ignored. Expectation must address uniform use, conduct in public, social media use, (and yes this includes the members "personal" social media conduct) criminal activity including driving while intoxicated, domestic violence, and a myriad of other items which can negatively affect the reputation of our Department.

Next, we must lead by example. It does us and our department no good if we as leaders don't follow the rules we put in place for everyone else.

So what's the bottom line? It's up to everyone to manage their own reputation, but it goes further than that! If you see one of your fellow firefighters starting to slip into some questionable area, help them, your department and yourself out by intervening.

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We may be small but remember what they say “Great things come in small packages”

Glorieta Pass Volunteer Fire District was started in September 1983 after a house burned in the village. Glorieta Conference center pumper and Hondo Fire responded with personnel but it took a while to extinguish the flames. Mr. Frank Baca came to Bill McSweeney and asked- How the Village of Glorieta could start a department?

Frank lived in this village, worked at GCC and was on the Conference Center Fire Department with Bill and Jane. Jane worked on the GCC Security team.

Brain storming began and so did GPF!!! Bill talked to Hondo Fire Dept. Chief White Gill. He was a big help and had a fire engine that needed some repairs.

Friends, Families and 1 old Fire Engine -A 1952 Diamond T! A community came together, meetings were held in the Trujillo's, Gomez's and Lobato's living rooms. Bake sales, Dances and Fund raising began. Our 1st large donation (\$3000.) to purchase pagers and radio equipment was given by Bill and Alice McSweeney, owners of Los Pinos Guest Ranch and Bills parents. We were an Official Fire Dept. with the New Mexico Fire Marshal's office!

GP Engine 1; now repaired and in service was parked at the Lobato House and cared for by Joe Lobato. If it snowed Joe was out clearing away the snow! Alice his wife was our 1st Dispatcher. She would answer the “Fire Phone” (No 911 or RECC in 1983) Alice would gather info and page us out to the call while Joe would warm up the engine. Glorieta's Main station is called “Lobato station in Honor of Joe and Alice and all the years of dedicated service to their communities.

Property was donated by Glorieta Baptist Conference Center (now called Lifeway) in the village in 1984. The members and neighbors cleared the land and built the 4 bay station 1985.

Literally you can say we built Glorieta Pass Fire dept. from the “ground up”. Materials and many hours of skills and volunteer labor+ 40,000 created a home! Engine 1 pulled into bay #1 and parked on the dirt floor.

1987 we bought a demo Fire Engine FMC ford-Glorieta Engine 2. Our First tanker came from the Highway Dept. Orange water spraying road truck-1200 gallons of water on wheels! A red paint job, red lights, siren, and radio -a fire tanker was born. Glorieta tanker 3. We could really fight fires now! Another tanker was put into service 1500 gallons-GP tanker 4.

1986 Another couple years- many Fire calls and now Medical calls so we decided to add a rescue. Members were trained as EMT-B's and we started getting funding from the EMS Bureau. A suburban was turned into Rescue 5- another red + white paint Job. We started painting other tankers as a fundraiser with the help of Mike from Eldorado and Charlie from La Cienega. Dave Sperling joined Glorieta Pass to help build cabinets in back of the suburban. Yes that is interim Fire Chief Dave Sperling! 4 vehicles in 4 bays-time for a cement floor! What fun we had working as a TEAM to make Glorieta Fire. We became a big Family!

28 years later-Many calls, Members and newer Vehicles have come and gone. We are still in our Main station- it did get a remodel in 2008! New office, classroom, kitchen and 2 bathrooms. We even have a shower and laundry.

The only two Founding members still active today are Bill and Jane. Bill was the 1st Glorieta Fire Chief (for 9 yrs.) and Jane is current Chief (2+1/2 yrs.). They have been joined by all 3 of their Children- Bill Jr., Catherine and Kimberly. On August 7, 2010 Catherine married Sam Patty, another well know Fire Family in Santa Fe County! Sam was in Glorieta but is now Career Fire Fighter/EMT working Med.50, His Dad-Dennis is the Great County Fire Dept. Mechanic and his Uncle-Buster is Capt. with Fire Prevention! So our Fire Family keeps growing!

Coming soon to Glorieta will be station 2! We have property on Old Denver Highway and are working to put a “barn” on it. Stations used to be called Barns from when they use to have Horse Drawn Hose Charts or Pumps. It will have least 2 bays. We are excited for another station coming soon.

Glorieta Pass Fire + Rescue have 13 members, 2 Engines, 2 tankers, 1 rescue and 1 Brush Truck. We met at the station every Tuesday night @ 7:00pm for business meeting and training. Our Chief is Jane McSweeney her cell no. is 505 490-0145 Come by our station for a visit or call for a tour.

Edgewood & Pojoaque Improve ISO Ratings



ISO has completed the review of Edgewood and Pojoaque Fire Districts. ISO only rates areas within five driving miles of a fire station and is based on two different levels of protection. This is due to the difference in the amount of water we are able to deliver in the hydranted area compared to the non hydranted area. These two areas are published with a suffix of FPSA (Fire Protection Service Area) for the hydranted area and FDS (Fire Department Supply) for the non hydranted area.

Edgewood is 5; 6/10. This means for residents that are within five driving miles of an Edgewood Fire Station and within 1000 feet of hydrant, ISO 5. For those living within 5 driving miles but without hydrant are 6 and those outside of 5 driving miles are a 10. Previously Edgewood was 6/8B. Edgewood scored the maximum of 15 points for the Pre-Fire Planning!

Pojoaque is 5; 7/10. This means for residents that are within five driving miles of an Pojoaque Fire Station and within 1000 feet of hydrant, ISO 5. For those living within 5 driving miles but without hydrant are 7 and those outside of 5 driving miles are a 10. Previously Pojoaque was 5/9.

The new ratings took effect on September 1, 2011.

Fall VFA Graduates 21

By: Capt. Mike Jaffa

On January 6th, 2012 the second Volunteer Fire Academy held in 2011 graduated 21 new Firefighters in a ceremony held at the Bryan Fant Performing Arts Theatre at Capitol High School. A large crowd of family and friends were on hand to congratulate the graduates for successfully completing more than 180 hours of instruction. Beginning in August the students complete a department Orientation, Firefighter First Aid/CPR, IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations, Wildland Fire Behavior (S130/190), and IFSAC Firefighter I courses.

Congratulations: Justin Armijo, Christopher Bonifer, Mariel Davis, Estefania De La Cruz, Thomas Dominguez, Michael Feulner, Manuel

Gallegos, Heather Gonzales, James Gutierrez, Jake Hayman, Kyle Jaffa, Damon Larmon, Daniel Martinez, Jared Martinez, Rachael Martinez, Kevin Montoya, Samantha Nottke, Erwin Sagche, Owen Stenzel, Cody Ulrich & Nathan Wingate.

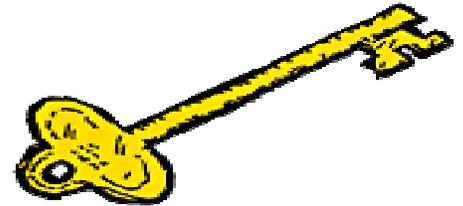




Key Changes to EMS Protocols *By: Captain Michael Mestas*

With 2012 upon us, many of you have been asking for some insight for the protocol changes to come. These changes are being included in the EMT Combo Refreshers, so you will likely see them several times.

- A skills list has been included to reflect allowable skills for all levels to include; allowable skills, procedures and medications. This coincides with the state scope for most procedures.
- Much of the verbiage in the designation of condition has been removed, along with a more streamline format. Many of the protocols have been grouped together e.g. Narcotic OD, TCA OD and ETOH OD are all under the same heading with a possible different treatment consideration for each.
- Airway management has been emphasized in each protocol as the first consideration in any situation.
- An Abdominal protocol has been added to reflect pain management with analgesics at the ALS level.
- Ipratropium has been added in the Asthma protocol for all levels down to EMT-B. So first course of treatment will still remain Albuterol Neb and adding 0.5 mg Ipratropium for the second dosing regimen.
- Narcotics protocol has been clarified, especially at the Intermediate level
- Promethazine has been replaced with Zofran for ALS.
- **ZOFRAN** (Ondansetron) 8 mg IV/IM; (Pediatric dose 6 mo –2 years 2mg ODT/IV/IM; Over 2 years 4mg ODT/IV/IM)
- Acetaminophen for fever has been added for all levels down to EMT-B
- Airway management will also include LMA's, KingAirway and the bougie for ALS.
- Magnesium Sulfate has been added as the fifth line drug for ALS in the treatment for refractory asthma. (ALS)
- The EZ IO drill for Intraosseous infusions will also be added on a trial basis on the regional first out meds initially; and carried over to the backup meds in a second phase if proven beneficial. (EMT-I and above)
- RSI has been removed (ALS).
- Chemical restraint with Haloperidol has been removed (ALS).
- Vasopressin has been removed from the ALS cardiac algorithms
- Lidocaine has been removed from the ALS cardiac algorithms
- Atropine has been removed from the Asystole/PEA algorithm
- Electrical therapy has been clarified to reflect specific manual joule settings for the biphasic cardiac monitor. (ALS only)
- All of the "procedures" (how to's) have been taken out of the protocol algorithm and added to a procedures section in the back of the book. e.g. CPR, IV's, IO's, Combitube, king airway, Surgical cricothyrotomy etc..
- The OB/GYN section has been completed reformatted and simpler to follow. Treatments have basically remained the same.
- The Taser projectile protocol has been clarified to reflect the proper procedure for removing a taser dart if needed, and which patients may require further evaluation.
- Trauma Stat criteria has been changed and updated to reflect the new recommendations from ST Vincent's trauma department.
- You will also notice some additional color charts for easier reading and flow and larger pictures and print (font).
- The existing protocols will remain in effect until January of 2012, at which time new protocol books will be redistributed to all county EMS personnel once they have received a formal protocol update.



*** These are only some of the changes to come for 2012; so please continue to review and become familiar with the new protocols under which you are expected to operate. Additional regional protocol updates will be held later this year. There will be more to come on dates, times and locations for the protocol update trainings.**



In April of 2011 the Santa Fe County Fire Department received a New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps. grant which allowed us to hire 10 young people between the ages of 18 and 25 as seasonal employees. Once these individuals were brought on board they received training as wildland firefighters, attending a series of NWCG courses such as, S130/190 - Wildland Fire Behavior, S212 – Wildland Fire Chain Saws, S131 – Advanced Wildland Firefighter Type I, First Aid/CPR, CEVO III and were required to pass the grueling pack test.



Once training was complete the crew was named the **BLACK CANYON HANDCREW**, a name which over the next several months would become known as a group which could be counted on.

The **Black Canyon Hand crew** was called out repeatedly on Wildland fires throughout Santa Fe County, Santa Fe National Forest, and Carson National Forest. Though the crew would spend many days on deployments throughout the state, their time back home in Santa Fe County was spent working hard on fuels management projects, cutting and chipping 10 hours a day, 4 days a week. On weekends and holidays **Black Canyon Hand crew** were on call because of the Extreme

Fire Danger, ready and prepared to battle the blazes of the fire season

The last 2 weeks of the Hand crew's time together were memorable ones, concluding with a rescue mission in the Hondo District. A long 6 mile hike (round trip) with a stokes stretcher, a few bottles of Oxygen, some medication and a couple of chainsaws to cut a path for the patient. On the final week the crew responded to a smoke reported on the Santa Fe National Forest bordering the Hondo District. The **Black Canyon Hand crew** geared up one more time and hiked the trail which the week before they had prepared for a high priority patient. After hiking in for 3 miles they found a lightning fire which would be the last of the season for the crew.



BLACK CANYON HANDCREW 2011

Walter Dasheno
Mike Feulner
Jerome Tafoya
Justin Armijo

Christopher Bonifer
Craig Moya
Nathan Lopez
Gabrielle Steinman

Andre Arellenez
Darian Gonzales
Robert Calhoun
Paul Sena



Six Graduate - 2011 Fire Academy

By: Asst. Chief Holland

On September 30th six cadets graduated from the 2011 Santa Fe County Fire Department Cadet Academy. This academy was a nine week/modified academy. It was unique in that all members had an previous affiliation with the department including a lot of the training in a tradition fire academy. Four of the cadets were district volunteers, one was a regional volunteer and one had worked as a career firefighter. It is the first academy in the history of the department that all the cadets came from internal positions.

The academy started on August 4th. It included an hour and a half of physical training every day. The curriculum included a week of County/Department orientation, three weeks of FF1 review and FFII curriculum, a week of hazardous material awareness and operation, two weeks of EMS training/protocol review and one week of pump operations and vehicle extrication. All the cadets excelled in all aspects of the academy.

It is my pleasure to announce the Santa Fe County Fire Department Cadet Class of 2011.

Nathan (Shaylor) Alley, FF EMT-I. FF Alley served over 10 years with the Turquoise Trail District. He also has a bachelor degree from UNM and has several years experience with the Los Alamos Fire Department and the Nashville (Tennessee) Fire Department. FF Alley is assigned to Station 50 on B shift.



Jacob Black, FF/EMT-I- FF Black served several years as a volunteer and Agua Fria District and worked PRN with the career staff. He completed his bachelor degree at the UNM. He is assigned to Station 60 on A shift.

Greg Bobick, FF/EMT-I. FF Bobick is returning to SFCFD after a short time away. He has an associate degree in fire science. He is assigned to Station 60 on C Shift.

Jonathon Hall, FF/EMT-B, FF Hall attended our first Volunteer Fire Academy and was one of our first Regional Volunteers. FF Hall is assigned to Station 70 C shift.

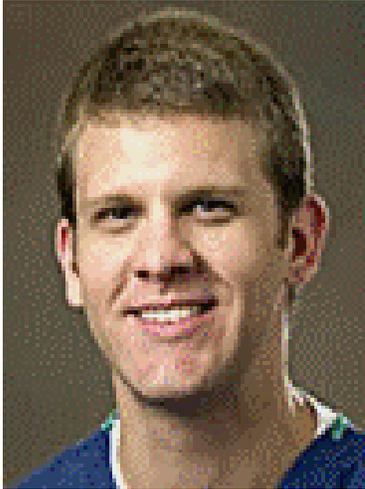
Craig Moya-FF/EMT-B, FF Moya volunteered several years with the Galisteo District before he started the academy. He also has received his bachelorette degree from NMSU. One of his degrees is in fire science. He is assigned to Station 61 C shift.

William Van Herpe, FF/EMT-I. FF Van Herpe served with the Hondo District before he joined the academy. He also comes with several years of swift water rescue experience. FF Van Herpe is assigned to Station 50 C shift.

Letter to the Editor - SF New Mexican 10-24-11

Collaboration Benefits Students

It's been a pleasure as a teacher to work with local fire departments in an educational outreach to middle school STEM students at the Academy for Technology and the Classics about fire and careers. STEM is a class integrating content in science, technology, engineering and math. Santa Fe County Fire Department's Fire Prevention Specialist Victoria DeVargas and a team of other firefighters shared their knowledge with the students. DeVargas and Wildlife Urban Interface Specialist Krys Nystrom brought their SIMS table that simulates, with computer modeling, wildfire behavior over local maps. DeVargas and Capt. Buster Patty from the Santa Fe County Fire Department and Samantha Nottke, Bryan Wyatt, Mike Martinez and James Gutierrez, volunteer firefighters from the La Cienega Fire District, taught us about structure fires. By bringing and teaching about firetrucks and firefighting gear, they helped students experience and visualize important science and engineering concepts, such as protective fabrics, hydraulics, chemical and physical properties and pressure, along with fire characteristics. Polly White, Academy for Technology and the Classics, Santa Fe.



The Santa Fe County Fire Department would like to welcome Dr. Forrest as Assistant/Co-Medical Director. Dr. Forrest will share the responsibilities of the department medical direction along with Dr. Rosen. You may have interacted with him while dropping off a patient in the Emergency Department at Christus St Vincent's Regional Medical Center. He is a welcome addition to the department and has participated extensively in the protocol review and revision process.

Dr. Forrest grew up in Southeast Louisiana and earned a B.S. in Biology at Louisiana State University. He then attended medical school at the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. He completed his residency at the University of Florida-Jacksonville, where he served as a Chief Resident in one of the largest emergency medicine residencies in the country at Shands Hospital in Jacksonville. His Emergency Medicine residency at an urban hospital provided excellent training, as evidenced when Dr. Forrest and two fellow residents won the 2010 national Sim Wars competition in Boston involving simulated emergency cases. For a year after college, prior to starting medical school, he worked as a wrangler on a ranch near Buena Vista, Colorado, and then moved to Tacoma, Washington, where he worked for a home construction company. Two trips to Philmont Ranch with the Boy Scouts first acquainted him with the beauty and diversity of the northern New Mexico landscape, and he is thrilled to be returning to the West. He is excited about joining Health Front and is impressed with their level of community involvement and their commitment to community service. Dr. Forrest enjoys cooking, reading, mountain biking, hiking, ultimate frisbee and spending time with his fiancée Amy and their cat Roxy. He also enjoys traveling and has spent time in Peru, Ecuador, and the Czech Republic. Professionally, his particular area of interest is International Medicine.

For a year after college, prior to starting medical school, he worked as a wrangler on a ranch near Buena Vista, Colorado, and then moved to Tacoma, Washington, where he worked for a home construction company. Two trips to Philmont Ranch with the Boy Scouts first acquainted him with the beauty and diversity of the northern New Mexico landscape, and he is thrilled to be returning to the West. He is excited about joining Health Front and is impressed with their level of community involvement and their commitment to community service. Dr. Forrest enjoys cooking, reading, mountain biking, hiking, ultimate frisbee and spending time with his fiancée Amy and their cat Roxy. He also enjoys traveling and has spent time in Peru, Ecuador, and the Czech Republic. Professionally, his particular area of interest is International Medicine.

Medical School: Louisiana State University

MD Received: 2007

Emergency Medical Residency: University of Florida – Jacksonville 2007-2010

Eligible for Board Certification in Emergency Medicine

Health Front Physician since 2010

Workplace Fire Safety Training

By: FP Specialist DeVargas

The Workplace Fire Safety Training proved to be quite fruitful in Santa Fe County in 2010. We offered the County 12 classes. Each class had anywhere from 6 to 20 students and departments such as Finance, CSD, GIS, Fire Administrative Staff and the RECC had 95 to 100% staff participation.

This year we are off and running and have the Spring and Fall schedule ready to go. You can find a listing of all available classes on-line at the County Legend.

We assisted with the hands-on portion of fire extinguisher use at the Volunteer Academy in September and also had some outside businesses that asked for the training. We did trainings with PNM, Small Smiles Dentistry (with City Fire Prevention) and most recently Encantado Resort.

The fire extinguisher trainer has been a great addition to our public education program! We have had a lot of positive feedback. Many people like the fact that we don't just focus on how to use an extinguisher; we also discuss evacuation and the importance of drills. There are some challenges as far as cold weather and Red Flag wind days, but we have been able to work around that by scheduling classes in the spring and fall. (We'll just have to wait and see what Mother Nature has to offer us this fall.)



If you are interested in the Workplace Fire Safety Training, you can contact Victoria DeVargas at 505-995-6529 or by e-mail at vdevargas@santafecounty.org.

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PMS-Arroyo Seco Head Start Jan. 2011



Nambe Pueblo Head Start Mar. 2011

PlaySafe! BeSafe Graduates By: Victoria DeVargas

PMS-Chimayo Head Start Mar. 2011

Pablo Roybal Elementary – Head Start Feb. 2011

