



The Connection



Thank You! & Happy Holidays!

Around this time of year we all start to think about the things we are thankful for. Personally we are generally thankful for our family and friends as well as our jobs and any number of other things in our lives.

Let's talk, for a minute, about the things that, we, collectively as a Department are thankful for. Clearly we ought to be thankful we have each other. Our brothers and sisters in the fire service stand together every day and we should be thankful to know we have each other to lean on in good times and in bad. Whether you are paid or volunteer, you have an extended family in the fire service which will do extraordinary things to help, protect, and save you if called upon to do so.

There is the Administration staff which comes to work everyday fighting to make sure the department has the funding, direction, leadership, and organization it needs to move forward. The field staff (Paid & Volunteer) who respond directly to the needs of the community when called upon. The folks touch the lives of the citizens every day, and represent the fire department professionally. How about the members of Fire Prevention? Through their proactive efforts untold numbers of lives are affected, if not saved, every year.

Last, but certainly not least..... OUR FAMILIES! While we are thankful for them for many reasons, it is easy, at times, to overlook the sacrifices they make, every day, so that we can be a part of the fire service. Our spouses or significant others who watch us leave the house for our shift or responding to a call, and manage to keep everything together at home while we are gone. All the while hoping we are safe, but not really knowing until we return. Many of us have kids who know we are going to miss meals with them, school activities, baseball games and much more because we have a duty to the community. For our parents, who, no matter how old we get, never stop worrying about us, and in many cases wish we would find, "Something less dangerous" to do with our time.

All-in-all, this holiday season lets not just be silently thankful for these people, and many others who touch our lives everyday. Let's tell them how thankful we are to have them in our lives, and how we truly could not do what we do without them.

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Safety Safari

By: Donna Morris



On September 25th 2010 the Santa Fe County Fire Department participated in the annual Health & Safety Safari and Family Fun Day sponsored by the Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center. Sparky posed for pictures and greeted close to 100 youth at this event, many who come back year after year just to see Sparky! The Snorkel always draws a crowd and **Assistant Chief Vigil** brought the CBRNE truck and information on emergency preparedness. The SFCFD FF

Union Local 4366 donated their time to help out with the BBQ and working side by side with

the Christus St. Vincent Vice Presidents and other Executive Staff they flipped over 500 hamburgers! A big "THANK YOU" to **Fire Protection Specialist Tim Gilmore** from our Fire Prevention office, **Charles Harrison** from the Agua Fria Fire District, **Assistant Chief Vigil** and our FF Union members for helping out at this event and providing fire prevention and emergency preparedness outreach and awareness to the community of Santa Fe County.



Year End Ambulance Revenue By: Donna Morris & Lorie Schonrock

The ambulance revenue collections exceeded the FY-10 budgeted goal of \$650,000 by \$118,476 for a grand total of \$768,476! Congratulations to **Lorie Schonrock** and **Erin Gomez** for a job well done! The budgeted goal for FY-2011 has been increased to \$800,000. Since the bar has been raised this is a good time to revisit the many factors involved to ensure that we will be able meet the budgeted goal amount for FY-2011. One of the most important is your diligence in obtaining accurate information on your Patient Care Reports (PCR's). It is important that your PCR's are legible, completed with the correct patient and billing information, accurate mileage documentation, and comprehensive narratives that support the medical necessity for ambulance transport. Please remember that the signature document is a federally mandated requirement that should be included with EVERY PCR, with the only exception being a canceled response with no patient contact. Also, if the patient refuses transport within our protocol the patient must sign the SFCFD refusal of transport/treatment form which can be found on Emergency Reporting by clicking on Library > EMS > Patient refusal. In addition, obtaining the billing face sheet from the receiving hospital is always a good reference for accurate information. To be in compliance with the CQI Process it is the responsibility of the shift Lieutenants to ensure that all PCR's are completed and submitted by regional crew members, prior to shift departure and within seven (7) days for district volunteers. It is the responsibility of the District Chiefs to turn in the volunteer field reports to the regional shift Lieutenants. This is the CQI auditing process, and any discrepancies should be corrected or amended appropriately prior to being submitted to billing and EMS review. It is not the responsibility of the field Lieutenant to CQI the PCR, only to audit for promptness, completeness and legibility. If during the auditing process the Lieutenant has a CQI concern he will then forward the PCR to the EMS Captain. It is imperative we are all following the same policy throughout the Department.

If there are ever any questions or concerns please contact the appropriate personnel at fire administration.





Due to the overall size of our response area, almost 2000 square miles, many of us end up utilizing the radio as our conduit into the day-to-day operations that take place in the field. We end up listening to calls at all hours of the day and night and sometimes start hearing words and or phrases that grab our attention. One of the most common phrases utilized on emergency calls is, "Such and such unit or individual is 'assuming' command." This simple phrase or use of words seems minor, but the reality is that not only is it grammatically incorrect, it's operationally incorrect and confusing.

Webster's Dictionary defines "assume" as: to take upon one's self or undertake the payments for, to affect an attitude of indifference, to take for granted without proof. On the other hand the word 'establish' is defined as: to set in a secure position, to create, to cause to be recognized or accepted.

Given those definitions, it makes sense to utilize the word 'establish' and not 'assume' when we are in fact 'establishing' command as the first arriving emergency unit on scene. I think you would agree it is simply illogical to assume command of something that has yet to be established.

Again, these issues may seem minor; however they paint a bigger picture as to the level of professionalism that our department is striving to achieve. Our radio traffic is always recorded and sometimes listened to by the media and public at large. With this in mind, we should all work together to make sure the establishment, and transition of command is consistent and easily understood by everyone involved in the incident. For further information about Incident Command please refer to SFCFD SOP 500-1 found in Emergency Reporting.

New Vice President of Santa Fe County Chief's Assoc.



What an honor and pleasure to be elected to serve and represent the District Chief's Association as Vice President. After several years of driving by the Tesuque Fire station everyday to work wondering what it would be like to join the department, I did just that, I stopped. It was April of 1999 when I became a probationary member of the Tesuque Fire District. I became an EMT-B in February of 2000, Firefighter I in 2001, and a Firefighter II and EMT-I in 2002. I served as a PRN for Santa Fe County for 6 years. I will be serving my 9th term as Tesuque District Chief and am the senior District Chief in the county. I am very proud to be a member of the Tesuque Fire District and a family member of Santa Fe County Fire Department as a whole. I am dedicated to the EMS / Fire service we provide to people of Santa Fe County. You will likely hear me responding to calls within several districts. Rumor has it I sleep in my gear, ready to go, not true. I do however sleep with one eye and ear open. Santa Fe County Fire Department is truly made up of a bunch of great

men and women serving as one department strong, while every district has their individual identity, landscape and traditions. Those important distinctions are what make up our character and purpose. Collectively, it is my belief that we are the best Fire Department in the State of New Mexico, the Santa Fe County Fire Department. We should feel lucky and proud to belong. This department will continue to grow and move forward with constant change, mostly good and some bad, but that's progress. With progress you can't keep all the people happy all the time. I have witnessed positive growth with both the career staff and volunteers alike. Yes, at times there is a little friction here and there, but we don't live in a perfect world. When the chips are down we are all professionals and my hat is off to everyone (Administration Staff, Command Staff, Career Staff and Volunteers) that contributes to this great department. It takes us all to get the job done.

I have been married for 21 years, to a great caring and understanding wife. We have two wonderful daughters. My eldest, Katie just made me a proud grandpa. My youngest Lindsay is a cadet with the Tesuque Fire District. I was Executive Chef at the old El Nido restaurant for 24 years. I have since opened a new restaurant, "Little Tony's" in the Solana Center. I have been a juried Artist in the Spanish Colonial Arts Society's "Spanish Market" for 22 years as a Tin Smith. I enjoy fishing, hunting, gardening, Texas Hold'em and gold prospecting. I am an expert with fire arms and a hold a black belt degree in Shoto Kan. And lastly, a huge die hard Green Bay Packer fan. I look forward to interaction with you all in the field. Be safe, be proud. District Chief J. D. Damron



La Puebla District Update *By: District Chief Joseph Sandoval*

The major news in La Puebla Fire District in the past year has been the upgrade to our main station. With the completion of 1000 square feet of space, we were able to add a training/meeting room, kitchen, office, shower and modern restrooms. We were also able to convert what served as our previous meeting room, out in the bay, into a new fourth bay which now holds the brush truck. This allows us to house all first out apparatus in our main station for the first time. Also, the glass bay doors were replaced, giving the station a new appearance and increased energy efficiency.

Another addition to the District are 24 new hydrants along State Road 76, County Road 88 and State Road 106. Unfortunately, the expected water source is not yet available and the hydrants are out of service for fire flow. A proposed water storage tank from Cuatro Villas to add a 500,000-gallon tank behind La Puebla Station 1 is in the works.

2010 has been a busy year for the La Puebla Fire District. Call volume has doubled from 20 calls per month to 45 calls per month with a total of 350 calls at the end of October.



Wildland Update *By: Captain Greg Gallegos*

For those who may not know the Wildland Division operates totally on outside funding sources (grants, RMP fires, etc.) and a lot of times we get close to the funding drying up especially during these difficult economic times. We try to think “out of the box” but most often our funding comes from grants. Recently the wildland Division was awarded two big grants that will continue the efforts of the Wildland Division for the next three years.

The first grant that we were awarded came from the USFS and it’s a Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grant totaling \$342,000. The goal of this grant is to reduce the threat of wildland fire using on-the-ground fuel reduction treatments. Over the next three years we will treat 140 acres in the Wildland Urban Interface working in pinon/juniper, ponderosa, and bosque fuel types. This funding will help keep our wildland crew (**Walter Dasheno, Mike Feulner, Krys Nystrom**) funded for the next three years and will buy us some breathing room to find more funding.



The second grant is from the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) for a total of \$145,000. This will fund a 10 person wildland fire/fuels hand-crew made up of 18 to 25 year olds. This crew will work on some of the projects we will be conducting over the next three years and will also be available to respond to wildland fires in the county and RMP assignments across the state.

We may respond as a 10 person hand crew or we may team up with SFFD and their 10 person hand crew to fill a 20 person Type II initial attack crew. If anyone between the ages of 18 and 25 would like to apply for one of the positions we will be hiring early next spring, for more information on anything else regarding wildland stop by my office or give me a call.



What is ISO? What does it mean? Where are the records?

Insurance Services Office (ISO) is an independent statistical, rating, and advisory organization that has served the property/casualty insurance industry for over 30 years. ISO collects information on a community's public fire protection and analyzes the data using the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). ISO then assigns a Public Protection Classification used by insurers.

ISO evaluations are done upon request, when major improvements warrant an evaluation in hopes to improve ratings or when a department is failing and facing possible decertification by local state officials. ISO measures three major elements of the County's fire suppression system, namely **Fire Communications, Fire Department, and Water Supply**. The ISO Classification number is a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 representing less than the minimum recognized protection. In order to be a classification higher than a 10 the following facilities must be provided: Organization, Membership, Training, Alarm Notification, Apparatus, and Housing.



Fire Communications, total credit is 10.00 and the review includes:

The communications center facilities, number of operators at the center, telephone service, number of telephone lines coming into the center, the listing of emergency numbers in the telephone book and the dispatch circuits and how the center notifies firefighters about the location of the emergency.

Fire Department, total credit is 50.00+ and the review includes:

Distribution of fire companies throughout the area, fire apparatus and equipment, fire-company records to determine the type and extent of training provided to fire-company personnel, number of people who participate in training, firefighter response to emergencies, maintenance, and testing of the fire department's equipment.

Water Supply total credit is 40.00, including:

whether sufficient water is available for fire suppression including all components of the water-supply system including: Pumps, storage, and filtration, fire-flow tests at representative locations in the community to determine the rate of flow the water mains provide, distribution of fire hydrants up to 1,000 feet from representative properties, size, type, and installation of hydrants; hydrant maintenance; and hydrant condition. You can also earn Divergence Credit by adjusting for the difference in credit between Fire Department and Water Supply (ability to provide a water shuttle operation is an example).

Santa Fe County Records are available in the Library of Emergency Reporting. Each Volunteer Fire District has a Category with ISO files. The forms include ISO- Pre-Survey, Water, Fire Department and either Improvement Statements or Summary Report given by ISO based on their latest evaluation. Each District also has a form for each type of apparatus that is based on ISO and NFPA. These forms will be completed using the information from the State Fire Marshal's Inspections.

Improvements need to be made in record keeping. Emergency Reporting is the repository for all districts to keep required records. These include Business Meeting and District Training Events under the Events Tab; Apparatus, Hose and Pump Testing under the Maintenance Tab; Supplies under the Inventory Tab; Hydrants and Inspections under Hydrants Tab, etc.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

During the Month of November, three Districts completed their ISO Inspections, Chimayo, Edgewood and Pojoaque. While we won't know the results for several months, these inspections took a great deal of work and coordination of a large number of individuals. From making sure pumps, hose and ladders were all tested, printing District maps, updating records, performing tanker shuttles and so much more! None of this would have been possible without each and every one of you who helped out on this project. There are simply too many to name, but thanks to all Volunteer, Regional and Fire Administration staff!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



2011 EMS License Renewal By: Captain Mike Mestas

2010 is quickly coming to a close and it's time to once again begin the EMT license renewal process. There are a couple new changes for the renewal process and bureau requirements. First off the NM State EMS Bureau is not requiring applicants to send in a copy of each individual CE certificate. Instead they would like the applicants to list all of their attained CEs in a list something similar to this example:

COURSE/ WORKSHOP TITLE	DATE OF COMPLE- TION	CE CATEGORY	HOURS	LOCATION	EMSB AP- PROVAL #

Licensure rule 7.27.210 NMAC requires that all licensure levels must complete a set number of Continuing Education hours in order to renew a license. The original CE certificates DO NOT need to be sent in, but a copy of your refresher course certificates should. The Bureau will be auditing 10-20% of all applicants. If an individual is selected for audit he/she will then be required to submit copies of all certificates listed on the CE Documentation form. This form may also be obtained on the website at www.nmems.org.

In order to help with this process here are the necessary steps for ease of application, signatures and payment. Remember, you are ultimately responsible for maintaining your licensure. The Santa Fe County Fire Department and the EMS training division will do all it can to help with the process. So here goes:

Step one: Obtain a copy of the New Mexico State 2010-2011 EMS Provider Renewal Application from Captain Mestas at SF County Fire Administration, or you can download the application online at www.nmems.org, just click on the renewal tab on the top of the home page. Fill this form out completely with the sections that pertain to your level of licensure.

Step two: Turn the completed application into my office (form only!) at SFCFD Administration c/o EMS Captain no later than **December 31, 2010**. Do not send your CE documentation form attached at this time, only the forms for the Medical Director's signature. Dr Rosen will not sign any applications without the consent of SFCFD Administration. The State License is required by the county, but if you would like to maintain your National Registry, signatures can be obtained for you at the same time. *Reminder, you are responsible for the fees associated with the National Registry application.

Step three: Once signed by the Medical Director, applications will be returned to you no later than **January 31, 2011** via District Chiefs and BCs unless you provide further direction that you would like to come in personally and pick up your form. This may be an inconvenience, but is probably the preferred method since you are minimizing the chances of your application getting misplaced.

Step four: A group Purchase Requisition will be started for paid members. Volunteers should ensure that their District Chiefs have completed their Purchase Requisition. If you would like the County to cover the fees just let me know. If you choose, you can pay the cost yourself to avoid any possible delays in the process but you will not be reimbursed after the fact. SFCFD will cover the initial fees for the State Application for paid staff only. You will be responsible for any late fees incurred by March submittal or reinstatement fees thereafter. It is at the discretion of districts to choose to cover the fees for their respective members. See the table below for fees:

CATEGORY	NORMAL FEE	*MARCH FEE	**REINSTATEMENT FEE
Emergency Medical Dispatch Inst.	\$25	\$75	\$150
Emergency Medical Dispatcher	\$20	\$60	\$120
Emergency Medical First Responder	\$20	\$60	\$120
EMT- Basic	\$30	\$90	\$180
EMT-Intermediate	\$40	\$120	\$240
EMT-Paramedic	\$50	\$150	\$300

2011 EMS License Renewal - Continued



Step five: Attach the “*Continuing Education Documentation Form*” that lists all of your CEs e.g. date, class and hours received. This will help streamline the review process at the bureau and minimize paper waste. All EMTs need to include a copy of current BLS (CPR) NM approved course card. Paramedics are required to include a copy of their ACLS or approved equivalent to the advanced cardiac life support for emergency care with their CPR card.

Step six: Mail the completed renewal packet to:

EMS Bureau
Attn: License Department
1301 Siler Road, Building F
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Reminders:

Renewal requirements must be completed no later than **December 31, 2010**

You have until February 28 to renew at the normal fee, March is the last month to renew but the fees triple in March; and after that time you will need to follow the reinstatement guidelines and the fee doubles yet again. So on that note, I encourage you to submit prior to March and avoid the additional incurred fees which you are responsible for!

You are strongly encouraged to make a complete **copy of your packet** prior to mailing in to the Bureau, and send your renewal packet to the Bureau by certified mail, return receipt requested, you may also request a receipt of delivery from Bureau Office if you hand deliver your packet!

Any questions please contact me at: mmestas@santafecounty.org or by phone 505-992-3075

Collar Insignia History

By: Captain M. Jaffa

The rank structure in the fire service is generally accepted as something that came from the Civil War. Prior to the Civil War, U. S. fire departments were often run something like a business. Many early fire brigades were private organizations who were paid by insurance companies. There were chiefs, bosses, leaders and foremen and such. During the Civil War entire fire departments joined up as a unit. They became units like Infantry Companies etc. The leaders were given rank and that rank or title survived the war. After the war some men were known as Captain for the rest of their lives and when they were replaced, the department got a new Captain for that company. In the early days, of North American fire departments, orders were given to the troops, by officers, through the use of a large brass device that resemble a megaphone. These were very ornate brass horns, commonly called speaking trumpets or bugles. The person with the bugle hanging from his neck or shoulder was easily identified as the person in charge. Officers became identified with these objects, so a small pin in the shape of a bugle became a type of rank insignia for officers. The more bugles on his collar the higher the rank. An expression we still use today in the fire service, including our department.

So how does all this affect us? Most importantly, we need to remember we are ONE department with ONE Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 3 Assistant Chiefs, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 1 Volunteer Regional Chief, and 14 Volunteer District Chiefs, and that wearing the inappropriate collar brass can cause confusion. Generally the more bugles on your collar, the greater your level of responsibility, for those reasons the Chief of the Department is the only member of any Fire Department who is authorized to wear the 5 bugle cluster. With those 5 bugles goes the ultimate responsibility for the operations of the Santa Fe County Fire Department, including all of it's Districts. While District Chiefs have responsibility for one of the 14 Districts which make up the Department as a whole.

Likewise the Department Deputy Chief would be the only person authorized to wear a 4 bugle cluster, the Department Assistant Chiefs would wear a 3 bugle cluster and so on.





While doing an inspection at the Holy Cross Catholic School, I entered the Kindergarten class and the teacher, Miss U., started to tell me story about one of her students. Upon hearing her story I asked if she would mind putting it in writing (below) so that I could share it with the Department. For those of you who help me with the Fire Prevention Presentations, you have heard me say this a hundred times, “Thank you for your assistance, without you guys the programs would not be possible or as successful as they are!” This story reiterates that statement. It is amazing how the littlest gesture can make a lasting impression.

Dear Victoria DeVargas, Fire Prevention Specialist,

While it’s been awhile since you and your team of fire fighters was here at Holy Cross School, I want you to know that our children are still thinking of the work you and your fire fighters do to help this community.

The children’s admiration became very apparent last week during Parent/Teacher conferences. I was meeting with Jaime and Derrick Valdez, the parents of Kindergartener Kailynn Valdez. We were looking at some of the writing that 5 year old Kailynn has done this year. Now when Kindergarteners “write” they use mostly pictures to convey their message. However, Kailynn’s work showed one legible word, “Adam” boldly printed amongst the page of scribbles and what appeared to be a brush fire. I told the parents that I had seen “Adam” written on Kailynn’s work quite a bit. “She loves to write Adam on her work,” I said, “Who is Adam?” The parents looked puzzled and said, “We don’t know anyone named Adam.” Now concerned and curious, we all agreed we would



have to ask Kailynn.

The next morning, Kailynn’s mother arrived, excited to inform me that they had solved the mystery of “Adam.” Adam is a fire fighter,” she explained. Her daughter nodded, her eyes big and serious. Apparently, Adam had left a big impression on Kailynn.

Looking back, it’s not surprising. Adam was one of several firefighters that came to visit our school during Fire Prevention Week. He had given our class an exciting tour of the fire trucks and when the children asked, he blew the horns real loud! Later, when our class went to lunch, the Kindergarteners were very excited to see that all of the fire fighters had stayed for lunch. Encouraging my students to be hospitable, I suggested that they give the fire fighters some fruit punch from our classroom. The children gladly did so, and much to the children’s delight, Adam picked up his tray and moved to eat lunch with them! Kailynn was one of the students who ate lunch with a fire fighter that day. Adam, who went beyond the call of the fire fighter, truly impressed service to your community, goodness, and respect upon the hearts and minds of the children that he so willingly serves.

Today, I asked Kailynn to tell me about Adam. She said “I still remember Adam because he’s a fire fighter. He’s special because he helps.”

Victoria, please commend Adam for his efforts. Truly, he is a role model for all of us. Also, please remind all of your fire fighters that they are in the hearts and prayers of many. When we hear a siren, we make The Sign of the Cross and say a prayer for all of you, the special fire fighters who “help”.

May God bless you and your efforts,

Miss U.

Miss Suzanne Uberuaga, Kindergarten Classroom Teacher

Holy Cross Catholic School

Santa Cruz, NM

Congratulations Adam! (Adam Martinez is a Volunteer with the La Puebla Fire District)



Again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Volunteers, Regional Crew members and Fire Prevention Office Staff that assist each year with Fire Prevention Presentations (the Fire Safety House, school and senior center presentations, etc...). Together we make a difference!

SCBAs vs. Exposure Risks By: Lt. Jim Lovell



Underwriters Laboratories recently completed and published a 16 month study on the effects of smoke and gas exposure on firefighter health. The study conducted multiple tests of three different types of fire scenarios, during which firefighters performed duties like suppression and overhaul to replicate the kinds of exposures that firefighters would regularly encounter during a fire.

The results from these tests were used to assess the smoke contribution of a variety of individual natural, synthetic, and multi-component materials under fire conditions to investigate the combustion of forty-two commonly used residential building construction materials, residential room's contents and furnishings, and automotive components under controlled radiant heating conditions.

The results of these tests found that during the course of a fire, firefighters face prolonged exposure to a number of hazardous gases and other harmful agents found in smoke, including:

- Asphyxiates: carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide.
- Irritants: ammonia, hydrogen chloride, particulates, and sulfur dioxide.
- Allergens: isocyanides- one of the main ingredients in polyurethane foam, and also in pesticides.
- Carcinogens (cancer causing agents): asbestos, arsenic, mercury, and lead.

Smoke particles in the ultrafine range (particles less than 0.1 micron in diameter) are especially dangerous because they put firefighters at higher risk of specific cancers and cardiovascular disease. In fact increases in firefighter mortality and morbidity have been directly linked to exposure to these types of gaseous and particulate agents.

The study also found that some gaseous effluents might also condense on protective equipment and exposed skin, leaving an oily residue or film. These chemicals can directly threaten firefighter health by being absorbed into the skin or eyes, or by inhalation.

This is why we need to wear our SCBAs the health implications are undeniable. Multiple asphyxiates, irritants, allergens, and carcinogens were found in smoke during both suppression and overhaul operations. Also, carcinogenic chemicals *may* act topically, following inhalation, or following absorption through skin, including from contaminated gear. All this exposure leads to increased cardiovascular mortality, and lead to cardiovascular diseases and chronic respiratory disease.

These implications are especially significant because during field tests, firefighters repeatedly exceeded the time and concentration limits of overexposure to toxic gases and other hazards. This means that firefighters significantly increase the risk of exposure to toxic gases and other hazards.....so to put it another way.....

WEAR YOUR SCBA...EVEN DURING OVERHAUL!!!!

NM FIRE SUPPORT SERVICES

New Mexico Fire Support Services is currently accepting applications for staff who will provide regional data collection and electronic records management services through Emergency Reporting to the Fire Districts.

Staff is needed in the Eastern Region (Eldorado, Galisteo, Glorieta Pass and Hondo) and Western Region (Agua Fria, La Cienega, Madrid and Turquoise Trail) and will work 20-30 hours per week. If you are interested, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Byron Gibbs at bgibbs@nmfss.com.

Byron Gibbs

NM Fire Support Services
Owner, CEO

(505) 750-8898 Work
byron@nmfss.com

13170 Central SE
Suite B #149
Albuquerque, NM 87123



www.EveryoneGoesHome.com

EVERYONE GOES HOME
FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES

Everyone Goes Home® is a national program by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to prevent line-of-duty deaths and injuries. In March 2004, a Firefighter Life Safety Summit was held to address the need for change within the fire service. At this summit, the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives were created and a program was born to ensure that *Everyone Goes Home*®.

- 1) Define and advocate the need for a cultural change within the fire service relating to safety; incorporating leadership, management, supervision, accountability and personal responsibility.
- 2) Enhance the personal and organizational accountability for health and safety throughout the fire service.
- 3) Focus greater attention on the integration of risk management with incident management at all levels, including strategic, tactical, and planning responsibilities.
- 4) All firefighters must be empowered to stop unsafe practices.
- 5) Develop and implement national standards for training, qualifications, and certification (including regular recertification) that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform.
- 6) Develop and implement national medical and physical fitness standards that are equally applicable to all firefighters, based on the duties they are expected to perform.
- 7) Create a national research agenda and data collection system that relates to the initiatives.
- 8) Utilize available technology wherever it can produce higher levels of health and safety.
- 9) Thoroughly investigate all firefighter fatalities, injuries, and near misses.
- 10) Grant programs should support the implementation of safe practices and/or mandate safe practices as an eligibility requirement.
- 11) National standards for emergency response policies and procedures should be developed and championed.
- 12) National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed.
- 13) Firefighters and their families must have access to counseling and psychological support.
- 14) Public education must receive more resources and be championed as a critical fire and life safety program.
- 15) Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers.
- 16) Safety must be a primary consideration in the design of apparatus and equipment.

Season of Giving. Joshua Tree Project.

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again! Again this year the Housing Authority will set up Joshua Trees throughout the Santa Fe County offices. (One is located at Fire Admin.) The trees will have tags on them with the name and age of a child who lives in one of our public housing units. We are hoping that each county employee or volunteer will pick up a tag, purchase and wrap a gift for their chosen child, and return the gift with the tag attached by December 10th. Housing staff will then distribute the gifts to the resident children. Currently, there are 200 children who reside in one of our three public housing neighborhoods. This year we would like to set a \$20 maximum limit on the gifts. **Maybe each District and Regional Station could adopt a child this Christmas??**



There have been movies made of this disaster, books written, vast amounts of research and speculation, and even a musical, and no matter how many have been made, the ending is still the same. Probably one of the more famous tragedies, it still fascinates us to realize that through ignorance, which was state of the art information for the era, egos and complacency, a tragedy like this was enabled.

The *Titanic* was one of the largest and most luxurious ships in the world. It had a gross registered carrying capacity of 46,329 tons, and when fully laden the ship displaced 66,000 tons. The *Titanic* was 882.5 feet long and 92.5 feet wide at its widest point. It was designed and built by William Pirrie's Belfast firm Harland and Wolff to service the highly competitive Atlantic Ferry route. It had a double-bottomed hull divided into 16 compartments that were presumed to be watertight. Because four of these could be flooded without endangering the liner's buoyancy, it was considered unsinkable.

Shortly before midnight on April 14, 1912, the ship collided with an iceberg about 400 miles south of Newfoundland, and at least five of its watertight compartments toward the bow were ruptured. The first four of these five compartments filled with water, which pulled down the bow of the ship. The *Titanic's* compartments were not capped at the top, so water from the ruptured forward compartments filled each succeeding compartment aft as the ship's incline brought the bow below the waterline. The ship sank at 2:20 AM April 15. The *Titanic* had only 1,178 lifeboat spaces for the 2,224 persons aboard, and many of the lifeboats were lowered into the water only partly filled with passengers, thus leaving many people stranded on the sinking ship. As a result, about 1,500 people died.



(Although the facilities proved to be inadequate, the *Titanic* had actually exceeded the lifeboat requirements of the British Board of Trade's regulations, which had been formulated for much smaller ships.)

Inquiries held in the United States and Great Britain alleged that the Leyland liner *Californian*, which was less than 20 miles (32 km) away all night, could have aided the stricken vessel had its radio operator been on duty and thereby received the *Titanic's* distress signals. Only the arrival of the Cunard liner *Carthage* 1 hour and 20 minutes after the *Titanic* went down prevented further loss of life in the icy waters.

As a result of the disaster, the first International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea was called in London in 1913. The convention drew up rules requiring that every ship have lifeboat space for each person embarked; that lifeboat drills be held during each voyage; and, because the *Californian* had not heard the distress signals of the *Titanic*, that ships maintain a 24-hour radio watch. The International Ice Patrol also was established to warn ships of icebergs in the North Atlantic shipping lanes.

Regardless of the incident, we are after time and experience too often drawn into this same sense of complacency, threatening our safety and that of others. Maybe it is the 'minor' dumpster fire with hidden toxic and hazardous materials or the alarm to the car fire which upon arrival is found still parked in the basement garage. How about that 'routine' gas leak, which upon investigation is discovered too late that there are pockets of gas ready to ignite? Assuming too late that power has been disconnected at the structure fire? We are all part of a family, and there is a need to watch out for each other, not for the chance to catch one another in a mistake, but to make sure that we all come home. Be Safe.

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Volunteer Fire Academy Graduation

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11:00 a.m.

Bryan Fant Theatre of Performing Arts
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