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A PUGET SOUND REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PUBLICATION | **FALL 2025**

BUILDING SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

A Change of Command at Puget Sound Fire

Chief Brian Carson retires with 33 years in the fire service and Chief Mark Jones takes the over as the new Fire Chief.

BRIAN CARSON

A message from Chief Carson

There is a common proverb that states "all good things must come to an end." And so it is with my time as your Fire Chief, and in fact my fire service career. But it has been so much more than just "good"!

Over the last 35 years I have served in numerous roles and spent time at nearly every rank. I had the chance to volunteer, work as a resident firefighter, experience a small city department, and then spend over a decade at the RFA. I wouldn't trade a minute of it! The fire service has certainly changed a lot in that time. I started in an industry virtually devoid of technology. We didn't have computers in the apparatus – and in fact we didn't have computers at all! I am senior enough to have rode on the tailboard of a fire engine, operated engines with manual transmissions, and responded to emergencies as a one-person crew.

But there are also things that haven't changed a bit. First among them is the absolute honor that it is to serve. We at Puget Sound Fire are blessed by the chance to assist you when you need us the most. I never took that for granted – there are few careers like this one. Along with that is the trust that you place in us, and the support that you have always shown to this organization – I am beyond grateful!

So with that, I am stepping back to spend time with family and friends, and hopefully enjoy more time on the water, and on the road. Puget Sound Fire is blessed to have a depth of experienced fire officers, and the Board has made an excellent selection in Fire Chief Mark Jones. I look forward to watching the organization, and the communities we serve, thrive under his leadership. ■

Thank you.
Brian

MARK JONES

A message from Chief Jones

It is an honor to serve you as the new Fire Chief of the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority. This is more than a job for me — it is the continuation of a lifelong commitment to service that began in 1991 when I joined the City of Kent as a volunteer firefighter. Over the past 30+ years, I have had the privilege to serve in nearly every role in this department — from volunteer firefighter to deputy chief, and now Fire Chief. It's been my honor to work alongside the most dedicated, skilled, and compassionate professionals in the fire service.

I am a graduate of Kentwood High School and have been a part of this community for 40 years. I understand the unique character of our neighborhoods and the strong sense of pride that defines us. I have seen firsthand how we come together in moments of crisis and

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IN MEMORIAM: HONORING TWO OF OUR OWN

DEPUTY CHIEF JIMMY WEBB

End of Watch: September 5, 2025

Years of Service: 26+

Deputy Chief Jimmy Webb lost his battle with cancer on September 5, 2025. Jimmy was employed by Kent Fire Department (now Puget Sound Fire) starting on April 1, 1999, and served for over 26 years before retiring on June 30, 2025, holding badge #208. DC Webb held the ranks of Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, Battalion Chief, Division Chief, and Deputy Chief. In his early years as a firefighter, he was a member of the HazMat team and the Ladder Company, and he spent time in the South King County Fire Training Consortium as it was being developed.

CAPTAIN BRANDON MINNEMAN

End of Watch: June 24, 2025

Years of Service: 17+

Captain Brandon Minneman lost his battle with cancer on June 24, 2025. Brandon began his fire service career as a volunteer with the McLane Fire and Life Safety, Thurston County Fire District #9, and Thurston County Fire District #11 - Littlerock Fire and Rescue. He was employed by the Kent Fire Department (now Puget Sound Fire) starting on March 17, 2008, and served for over 17 years, holding badge #268. Brandon was a member of the Hazardous Materials Response Team for four years and was promoted to Captain on November 16, 2020. He was assigned to Station 83. Prior to his fire service career, Brandon served in the Army with the 62nd Medical Brigade August 1999 - December 2003.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Continued from page 1

in celebration, and I know the strength that comes from those connections.

Our mission has always been clear: Professionally and Compassionately Helping People. As we look ahead, my focus will be on building upon our strong foundation while preparing for the challenges of tomorrow. This means:

• Ensuring operational excellence by maintaining high standards in emergency response and continually improving our readiness for fires, medical emergencies, disasters, and hazardous incidents.

• Investing in our people through professional development, wellness programs, and a culture where every member feels valued, supported, and empowered to lead.

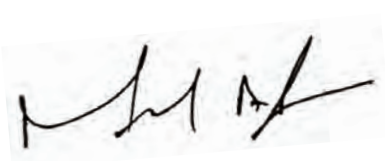
• Engaging with our community in meaningful ways — listening, collaborating, and building trust so that our strategies reflect your needs and priorities.

• Managing resources responsibly to ensure fiscal stewardship and the long-term sustainability of the services you rely on every day.

Public safety is a partnership. The success of Puget Sound Fire depends not just on our firefighters and staff, but also on the relationships we build with you — our residents, business owners, schools, and local leaders. I look forward to being out in the community, not only when you call 911, but at events, meetings, and casual conversations that strengthen our shared bond.

Thank you for the trust you place in us every day. I am humbled to serve as your Fire Chief and will work tirelessly to ensure we continue to serve you with integrity, dedication, and respect. ■

Mark Jones, Fire Chief



A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNANCE BOARD

By Toni Troutner, Governance Board Chairperson

TONI TROUTNER
Governance Board Chairperson

Earlier this year, we welcomed Tukwila City Council member Verna Seal to the RFA Governance Board. Verna was appointed to the Board while Council member Jovita McConnell is on excused leave of absence following a serious medical event. We wish Jovita the best and welcome Verna to the Board. Her long history with the citizens of Tukwila will be very helpful.

The Board would also like to thank Fire Chief Brian Carson, who retired on October 1, 2025, for leading Puget Sound Fire for more than 2 ½ years. Among his many accomplishments, the governance board appreciates his leadership during the annexation of the City of Tukwila into Puget Sound Fire but we truly appreciate his open communication, always putting others first, his vision to be a regional partner, and his commitment to the community and serving others.

With Chief Carson's retirement, I am excited to welcome Mark Jones as your next fire chief. Chief Jones has been a member of Puget Sound Fire (formerly the Kent Fire Department) for more than 32 years. He has worked in or managed several different divisions within Puget Sound Fire. Chief Jones is committed to providing the best service to all the communities we serve. He brings a unique perspective and innovative ideas on how best to serve our communities with the resources you have entrusted to us.

On behalf of the Puget Sound Fire Regional Fire Authority Governance Board, I would like to thank Chief Brian Carson for leading your fire department and to welcome Chief Mark Jones as your new fire chief. While there are changes at the leadership level, the governance board's priorities will continue to be, ensuring your firefighters have the sustainable funding to have the needed equipment, apparatus, programs, and training to serve ALL of you professionally and compassionately. We are committed to serving our diverse communities and citizens with integrity and compassion.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you! ■

ANNUAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS

In June, Puget Sound Fire recognized several individuals for their excellence in 2024 during our annual awards event. These awards cover several different categories and are voted on by peers as well as input from the executive staff. Below are excerpts from their nominating statements as submited by their peers.

Officer of the Year – Captain Marvin Oakcrum

"Captain Marvin Oakcrum is an exceptional leader. He is decisive, proficient in skills, prepared, values input, holds firmly to the standard, is emotionally intelligent with his crew, and treats all people with honor and respect."

Medal of Valor – Captain Brent Flatness

"Captain Flatness, off duty, went to a residential fire near his children's school after dropping them off to help. Captain Flatness pulled a line and helped pull a victim out of the fire. He went above and beyond with no gear and on his day off to not only help civilians, but also a two person engine company."

Firefighter of the Year – DeShainte Slaughter

"Engineer Slaughter fully embodies the skills and characteristics of Firefighter of the Year. Every shift, regardless of whether it is an overtime, debit time, or his regular shift he gives his best effort to improving himself and everyone he works with. His preparation and dedication to his craft is evident".

Medal of Valor – Engineer Wilkins Melgaard

"Engineer Melgaard took little stock in his own comfort and safety and jumped in Lake Meridian to do everything possible to rescue a pilot who had tragically crashed. Wilkins was the first rescue swimmer to arrive and was in the water as soon as he could be."

Employee of the Year – Becky Cole

"Becky always goes above and beyond for the department...getting the crews what they need. She embodies our mission, vision and values. Always a bright, positive attitude."

Distinguished Service Award
Deputy Chief Jimmy Webb

"Deputy Chief Webb was been instrumental in building some of the programs that have earned this department state, regional, and national recognition. He left this organization stronger and better than he found it."

Community Service Award – Jenny Keizer

"Jenny's commitment to community safety and preparedness is evident by her dedication and professionalism in consistently looking for ways to improve the CERT program and training. Jenny's positive attitude and drive to serve the community professionally and compassionately is always valued by everyone she interacts with."

Distinguished Service Award
Captain Daniel Flood

"Captain Flood has exemplified dedication and service to the department. He's encouraged and promoted professional development among his coworkers. Anyone who has worked close with Captain Flood can attest that you have become better at your job and more knowledgeable by being part of his crew."

WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

By Captain Cathy Browning

Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority, Puget Sound Firefighters Local 1747, and the Puget Sound Firefighters Foundation are gearing up for the annual holiday programs which provide smiles, fun, laughter and joy throughout the communities we serve! These programs only exist because of the tremendous generosity of our residents and businesses and this year we are hopeful for continued support from past partners and excited for first time supporters to join us in our efforts.

Toys for Joy

Toys for Joy is a long-standing holiday program where new, unwrapped toys are collected at our fire stations and local businesses. Toys are then delivered to local food banks and vetted outreach programs for distribution to families and kids in need throughout our service area. In addition to toys, non-perishable food and monetary donations are also collected. In 2024, the Toys for Joy program collected approximately 6,000 toys/stocking stuffers, 30 bicycles/scooters, and 36 resource/gift baskets for children and families in need. Collection efforts will begin November 17 at all Puget Sound Fire Stations.

We will host community sorting and wrapping events on December 3, 10, and 17 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Details and links to reserve your spot (limited space available) will be available on our website (pugetsoundfire.org) beginning November 3.

Jerry Woods Holiday Engines

The Jerry Woods Holiday Engines have been around for 19 years. This program is geared towards collecting food and monetary donations for our local food banks. Puget Sound Fire apparatus, decorated with lights, drive around neighborhoods playing holiday music drawing people out of their homes while Santa and his helpers greet families with smiles and candy canes. In 2024, the Jerry Woods Holiday Engines collected more than 27,000 pounds of food and more than $20,000 in monetary donations which were distributed to local food banks through the Jerry Woods Foundation.

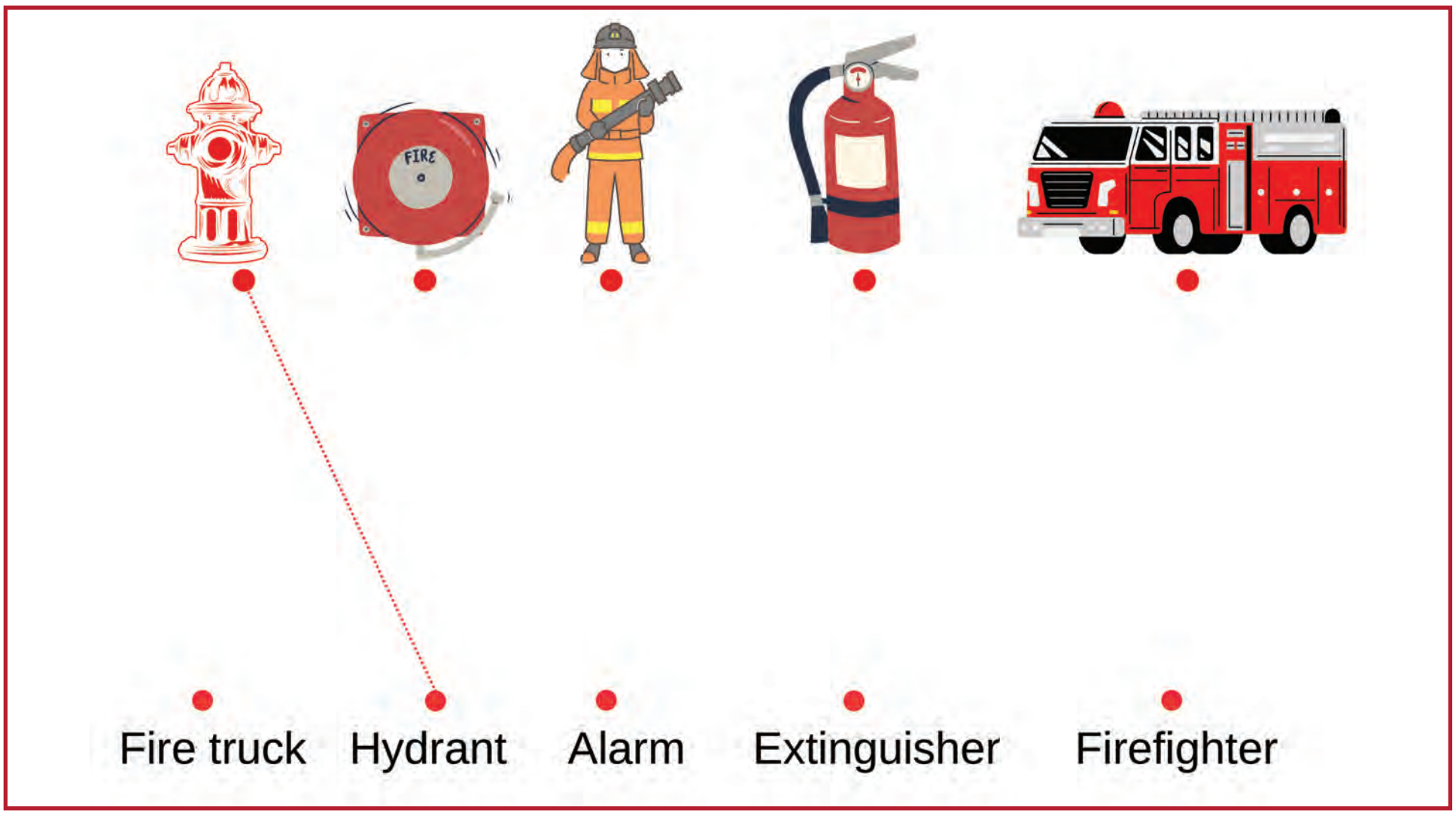
The Jerry Woods Holiday Engine will visit several Covington, Kent and Maple Valley neighborhoods on Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, and 20. Holiday engines will also visit neighborhoods in SeaTac and Tukwila on Dec. 11 and in Kent on Dec. 18. Stay tuned to our social media and our website for route details.

What You Can Do

- If you are an organization that would like to help in our collection efforts, we would love to partner with you. Email holidayprograms@pugetsoundfire.org with interests or any program related questions..
- Help with our collection efforts by bringing your donations to any of our fire stations. Monetary donations are also accepted through the Puget Sound Firefighters Foundation – they can be delivered to our stations, or you can Text TOYS4JOY to 366283 to donate online.
- Visit our website (pugetsoundfire.org) and follow us on social media (@pugetsoundfire) for program updates and volunteer opportunities. ■

KIDS' ACTIVITY: *Draw a line from the fire safety picture to the matching word.*

By Bre Boyce, Public Educator



FIRE SAFETY AT HOME: BE PREPARED, STAY PROTECTED

By Carly Mills Public Educator

Fire can strike at any moment, often without warning. Being prepared is the key to keeping your family safe in the event of a fire emergency. Whether you live in a house, apartment, or high-rise building, it's important to have a plan, practice it regularly, and understand the special needs of those most at risk. Below is a comprehensive guide to help you increase fire safety at home and be ready to act quickly and confidently in a fire situation.

Steps to prepare for a fire emergency.

- *Practice your home fire drill twice a year.* Conduct one drill during the day and another at night. Everyone in the home should participate, and you should practice using different exits in case your primary route is blocked.
- *Teach children to escape on their own*. Children should know how to get out of the house on their own in case you cannot assist them during an emergency.
- *Make your home easy to find*. Ensure your house number is clearly visible from the street. This helps emergency services locate your home quickly.
- *Close doors as you exit*. Closing doors can slow the spread of fire, heat, and smoke, giving everyone more time to escape safely.
- *Never re-enter a burning building.* Once you are out, stay out. Meet at your designated meeting spot and call 911 immediately.

Planning for those most at risk.

Some members of your household may require special assistance during an emergency. It's important to plan ahead for children, older adults, and people with physical, cognitive, or sensory disabilities.

Older adults — Adults aged 65 and older are twice as likely to be killed or injured in a fire compared to the general population. Consider:

- Sleeping on the ground floor.
- Having a phone by the bed.

People with disabilities — More than 43 million Americans live with some form of disability. Disabilities can be permanent or temporary, so it's crucial to plan ahead. For the deaf or hard of hearing:

- Use smoke alarms with strobe lights and bed/pillow shakers.
- Consider mixed, low-pitched sound alarms for better audibility.

Fire safety tips for vulnerable individuals.

Keep it low — If mobility is a concern, sleep in a ground-floor room. This shortens the path to safety. Also, ensure that:

- Smoke alarms are installed inside every bedroom and just outside sleeping areas.
- A working phone is within reach at all times.

Sound the alarm — Most fatal fires happen while people are sleeping. Smoke can put you into a deeper sleep rather than waking you. That's why it's crucial to have working smoke alarms with the right features for everyone in the household.

Do the drill — Fire drills help everyone understand what to do in an emergency.

- Have a helper for those who can't leave alone.
- Have backup helpers in case the primary one is not home.
- Test alarms so everyone can hear and respond.

Open up

- Ensure all doors and windows open easily.
- Check for windows that are painted shut or nailed closed and have them fixed.

Stay connected

- Keep a phone nearby at all times.
- Post emergency numbers where they can be easily seen. In case you're trapped, this allows you to call for help.

Final thoughts.

Fire safety is about more than just installing smoke alarms—it's about making sure every member of your household, regardless of age or ability, can escape quickly and safely. By practicing your escape plan regularly, you can be ready to face a fire emergency with confidence. For more fire safety tips and resources, visit www.nfpa.org. ■

IT WAS A FUN-FILLED SUMMER!

By Don Maher, Public Educator

Summer has come and gone too fast, but not before we were able to attend many amazing events throughout our community. From a beautiful weekend at Lake Wilderness for Maple Valley Days to a fun-filled Touch-A-Truck event in Tukwila, our crews enjoyed engaging with the amazing folks of our community.

Covington Days was once again a big hit. Engine 378 participated in the parade, while our public education team enjoyed talking with many patrons at our booth. Our team joined the City of SeaTac at Angle Lake for a water safety event.

Our crews came back a few days later to enjoy their annual Fourth of July fireworks show.

It was a hot weekend at Cornucopia Days in Kent, but that didn't stop the large crowds. Puget Sound Fire enjoyed seeing so many familiar faces and sharing summer safety messages to all that visited our booth. Several of our engines made it to Safety Street to join in on the fun.

In late August, the Tukwila Community Center held an End of Summer Bash. Crews from Station 53 joined our Public Educators to help community center members hand out school supplies.

The Cities of Covington and Maple Valley each hosted their annual KidsFest. Puget Sound Fire joined in and made sure the kids had a chance to spray the hose and climb aboard the engine.

It wasn't hard to find a good summer concert this year. Every city had great live music and our crews enjoyed stopping in to pass out badge stickers or helmets to the kids, while listening to our very talented, local performers.

Puget Sound Fire is grateful to our entire community for inviting us to share in all the fun and excitement of the summer of 2025. ■

PUGET SOUND FIRE'S MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

By Division Chief Jon Graziani

The Medical Services Division is the branch within Puget Sound Fire that is responsible for all aspects of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and other health-related operations. This division bridges the gap between fire suppression and patient care, ensuring that the department meets its community's medical needs alongside firefighting duties.

The Medical Services Division works closely with the King County Medical Program Director to ensure that our firefighter emergency medical technicians (EMTs) follow protocols and standing orders while adhering to a "Culture of Excellence" well known within King County through preparedness and regional EMS training and planning.

Additional responsibilities include emergency and non-emergency EMS oversight, on-going EMS training, EMS subcommittees, cardiac case review, Fire Alliance ambulance services, EMS equipment coordination with procurement and logistics for medical supply purchasing, inventory control, medical equipment readiness, and coordination with hospitals, public health agencies, law enforcement, and other fire departments.

Our top mission is to deliver advanced EMS services to those in need. We accomplish this by providing realistic and relevant training to nearly 300 department EMTs, and focusing on the following community health initiatives: *EMS training, FD CARES, Fire Alliance, public education on CPR, first aid, and AED use.*

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Puget Sound Fire's firefighters are EMT certified and provide Basic Life Support 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, responding to roughly 550 EMS-related calls per week, making up nearly 75% of the call types annually. Our EMTs respond to all 911 calls, triage and treat patients in need, and coordinate with ambulances and paramedics to get patients transported to local area hospitals.

The EMTs continuously train on EMS skills to maintain their required state and national certifications. Training consists of first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), oxygen and airway adjuncts, medication administrations, trauma, bandaging, splinting, mass casualty incidents (MCIs), disaster medical response, and many other public health related call types.

FD CARES

The Fire Department Community Assistance and Referral Education Services (FD CARES) operates under the direction of the division chief, day-to-day oversight is managed by a captain, lead registered nurse, and lead social worker. There are three CARES units staffed with a registered nurse and social worker seven days a week between 8:00 am – 8:00 pm.

The FD CARES program is essentially the community healthcare arm of the department, designed to fill gaps between traditional emergency response and the community's ongoing health needs.

It's not just about 911 calls – it's about proactively keeping people healthier, reducing unnecessary ER visits, improving BLS reliability, and connecting residents to the right care at the right time. The registered nurse, social worker model is a non-emergent alternative medical response team for calls not needing lights-and-sirens. Typical types of services and functions involve patient follow-up and check-ins, medication reconciliation and education, vital signs monitoring and health assessments, chronic disease management support through coordination with primary care providers and specialists. Identifying frequent 911 callers and connecting them with appropriate community resources. Building care plans to prevent unnecessary emergency responses. Fall prevention assessments for seniors and home safety checks. Social services integration is designed to link patients to mental health, substance use treatment, housing, food assistance, and transportation while working closely with social services and case workers. The benefits to the community and the department are better patient outcomes through early interventions, lower healthcare costs by reducing avoidable ER visits and hospital admissions. Improved resource availability for true emergencies, stronger community relationships through consistent, non-emergency engagement.

The Fire Alliance Ambulance is a partnership for Basic Life Support (BLS) transport, this is a public-private collaboration where Puget Sound Fire and TriMed, LLC jointly deliver non-emergency patient transport. The Fire Alliance Ambulance program is built on the strength of existing relationships, leveraging Puget Sound Fire's first-response capabilities and community trust, utilizing a private ambulance resource for transport efficiency.

Puget Sound Fire EMTs and TriMed EMTs operate jointly under the medical direction of King County EMS. Fire Alliance units are co-branded with Puget Sound Fire and TriMed LLC logos, equipped with local BLS protocols *(oxygen, AED, splinting, bleeding control, basic airway adjuncts)*. Medical oversight is shared under the EMS Medical Director for unified protocols and quality assurance. Joint training sessions ensure consistent patient care standards and protocols are adhered to avoid any confusion during responses.

The core purpose of Fire Alliance is to ensure timely BLS-patient transport with the Puget Sound Fire service are, improve EMS system efficiency, and support sustainable EMS-delivery through resource optimization. ■

PROTECTING FIREFIGHTERS FROM HEALTH RISKS

New CO_2 Technology Safety Removes Harmful Chemicals

By Deputy Chief Josh Kelch

On July 16, Puget Sound Fire launched a new program to combat one of the most insidious threats to firefighters that are largely unknown to the public. While firefighters put themselves in extreme danger to put out a fire, the perils of the job don't end after the flames are extinguished. In fact, the materials that burn during fires can leave hazardous contaminants on a firefighter's Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) – gear that includes coats, gloves, hoods, helmets, and equipment. If these toxic traces aren't properly treated, they can jeopardize a firefighter's health – in some leading to debilitating illnesses.

We have now adopted an innovative water-less technology to more effectively clean PPE gear. Pioneered by LION TotalCare and known as RedZone CO_2, the technology uses liquid CO_2 to remove the most harmful contaminants from PPE gear replacing an existing water-based cleaning system.

RedZone CO_2 removes bacteria and viruses and also eliminates, on average 98% of dangerous poly-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that over time can threaten firefighters' health. It is a waterless process and uses fewer resources. By curbing water consumption, the new technology reduces environmental impacts and promotes the health of the first responders entrusted with protecting our communities. ■

TotalCare® VERIFIED PPE MAINTENANCE

RedZone CO_2 Clean removes bacteria and viruses and also eliminates, on average, 98% of dangerous poly-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that over time can threaten firefighters' health.

LION Safety Solutions helps fire and safety leaders keep their teams and organizations safe and healthy through advanced PPE cleaning, inspection, and repair as well as training programs.

MEET OUR NEW FIREFIGHTERS

We are proud to welcome the following members to the Puget Sound Fire family. These individuals proved their dedication throughout their fire academy training, and we are excited about the depth of service and professionalism they will bring to our communities.

RECRUIT CLASS 20

Jake Abate
Jackson Biggs
Robert Byers
Henry Corrado
Seamus Duffy
Alvaro Herrera
Kaleb Magee
Garo Mazmanian
Abimael Sanchez
Jared Tavernier
Conner Van Gerven
Josh White

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE REORGANIZATION

A Blueprint for Streamlined Service Delivery

In a strategic move to optimize preparedness and response capabilities, Puget Sound Fire's Office of Emergency Management has conducted a comprehensive reorganization by restructuring its operations around six core areas of focus. This new model aims to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in serving the cities of Covington, Kent, and SeaTac, recognizing the unique needs of jurisdiction while leveraging a shared services approach. The Office of Emergency Management works collaboratively with the emergency management offices of the cities of Maple Valley and Tukwila to serve all Puget Sound Fire communities.

The reorganization emphasizes a proactive stance towards emergency management, moving beyond simply reacting to incidents. The six dedicated areas of service focus are:

Training & Exercise: This area is crucial for building and maintaining a skilled and prepared workforce, both within the emergency management office and across partner agencies and communities. Regular drills and exercises allow emergency managers to test plans, identify areas for improvement, and ensure personnel are familiar with their roles and responsibilities.

Financial Management: Robust financial management ensures the efficient allocation of resources for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. This includes budgeting, funding allocation, grant management, and the crucial ability to track and manage expenditures, particularly in the event of requesting public assistance disaster cost reimbursements.

Community Outreach: Building a resilient community necessitates robust outreach and engagement. This focus area prioritizes connecting with diverse community groups, including schools, religious organizations, service organizations, and the local business community to build trust, educate the public on preparedness, and understand their specific needs and expectations. Our team also conducts Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for community members to increase their disaster resiliency.

Emergency Operations Center/ Emergency Coordination Center (EOC/ECC) Operations: The EOC serves as the central hub for coordination and decision-making during emergencies. This focus area ensures the EOC is equipped with reliable communication systems, effective information management processes (including a Common Operating Picture (COP) for real-time situational awareness), and a skilled and trained staff to manage incidents effectively.

Planning: Comprehensive planning is the cornerstone of effective emergency management. This involves developing and updating emergency operations plans, conducting thorough risk assessments to identify potential hazards and vulnerabilities, and establishing clear roles and responsibilities for various scenarios.

Miscellaneous Support: This vital function encompasses the broader range of activities essential for the smooth operation of the emergency management office and its support to the jurisdictions. It covers aspects like the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), amateur radio support, regional partner/ stakeholder collaboration, regional committee/ workgroups, resource management beyond direct EOC/ECC operations, and other crucial activities that support the other five focus areas.

By categorizing and prioritizing these six areas, the emergency management office aims to foster specialization, streamline workflows, and ensure dedicated resources are allocated to each critical function. This structured approach, particularly in a shared services model across three jurisdictions, promotes a more integrated, coordinated, and ultimately, more efficient and effective emergency management system, leading to better outcomes for the communities we serve.

Our Office of Emergency Management can be reached at oem@pugetsoundfire.org. ■

PREPARE FOR WINTER STORMS

Winter can bring snow, windstorms, freezing temperatures, and ice that can disrupt our lives. By planning ahead, you can stay safe and minimize the impact.

STAY INFORMED

Register to receive emergency communication through ALERT King County. Stay informed about potential hazards and threats in your area.

Use reliable sources such as the National Weather Service (NWS) or local news channels.

WINTERIZE YOUR VEHICLE

Keep the fuel tank at least half full.

Keep emergency supplies in your vehicle (chains, flashlights, blankets, etc.).

Check the battery, antifreeze, brakes, and tire tread.

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Insulate pipes to prevent freezing.

Learn to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts.

Apply caulk/weather stripping to doors/windows.

STOCK UP ON ESSENTIALS

Food & Water: Keep at least three days' worth of non-perishable food and bottled water for each family member (including pets).

Medications: Refill prescriptions before the storm arrives.

Power Needs: Have flashlights, extra batteries, backup power banks for phones, in case of a power outage. Consider a backup generator for extended outages. *Only use generator outside and away from windows.

CREATE A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Emergency Contacts: Keep a contact list with details for family members, neighbors, and local emergency numbers in case of urgent needs.

Special Considerations: Plan for elderly family members, young children, pets, and anyone with medical needs.

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED FIRE AGENCY

FIRE HEADQUARTERS / ADMINISTRATION
20811 84th Avenue South
Kent, WA 98032
(253) 856-4300

Emergency	9-1-1
Emergency Management	(253) 856-4440
Public Information Officer	(253) 856-4405
Community Risk Reduction	(253) 856-4440
FD CARES	(253) 856-4398
Public Education	(253) 856-4480
CPR and First Aid Classes	(253) 856-4300
Disaster Preparedness	(253) 856-4440
RFA Governance Board	(253) 856-4300
Fire Chief: Mark Jones	(253) 856-4300
Newsletter Editor: Janet Hobbs	(253) 856-4480
Email	fire@pugetsoundfire.org
Website	pugetsoundfire.org