



THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – February 8, 2019

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Quote of the Week

"Sometimes, the first step towards forgiveness is realizing the other person was born an idiot ☺"

Unknown

Thursday A-Shift Fire in Dewey

Photo: Courtesy The Daily Courier



The Chief's Desk

I was struggling to come up with a relevant topic to write about week as sometimes happens when you write a weekly publication. There were a couple of topics I was trying to work out, but wasn't sure how to connect the relevance for you – so maybe another time. Unfortunately, while contemplating my options I received the notifications for an accident at Spouse and Robert Road. The initial report was fairly innocuous, just a run of the mill fender bender. Moments later additional texts arrived stating there was a



Photo Courtesy The Daily Courier

fatality. At first I couldn't understand how we could have a fatal MVA in that intersection given the speed limits, but then came the news that a pedestrian "child" was fatally struck. My heart sank for the child, their family, and for all emergency services crews responding.

There are a lot of things that we do really well in emergency services. And then, there are some things we struggle with. Let me clarify now, I'm not questioning how CAFMA currently handles diffusing's, CISD's, or behavioral health issues. In the scheme of things, I think we provide appropriate support, but there are always things that could be better. For instance, we need a better set of outside trauma counselors, which is something we are working towards.

Years ago, I worked with a professor out of a University in St. Charles. He was a trained trauma counselor and a PhD in psychology. He'd arrived in New York to begin his training on September 10, 2001. We all know what happened the next day. Long story short, he did his doctoral work at ground zero while providing aid to emergency responders.

While in St. Charles he reached out to me as well as other Chief level officers from other surrounding agencies. His theory, and one point of the research, was that we are not educating emergency responders or social services personnel in advance of starting their careers about the psychological traumas they will experience.

We do an outstanding job in the Firefighter's Academy, Police Academy, and Paramedic School of preparing people for the technical aspects of our professions. Hell, we even get to look at pictures of gory stuff and think about how we would treat and transport while in training. Those pictures are cold and distant to us and therefore have little to no impact on our psyche while in a sterile environment. We see them and think, "I got this!" Continued on page 4

Upcoming Events:

Feb 11 – Policy Committee, Lunch Meeting, Meet with Prevention
Feb 12 – Facilitate Senior Leadership Academy, Chino Council Meeting
Feb 13 – Facilitate Senior Leadership Academy
Feb 14 – AFSI meeting Phoenix, Valentine's Day – do something for wife, PV Council Meeting

Board Meeting:

February 25th Chino Valley Town Hall

CVFD – 1600-1630
CAFMA – 1630 – 1800
CYFD – March 5th Admin – 1600-1800



How your agency can succeed on purpose, together

By: Chief Marc Bashoor



How many times have we heard, “There’s no ‘I’ in team?” Developing a team takes more than slogans and history – there must be a well-articulated mission and vision, along with an atmosphere of encouragement and inclusiveness.

Let’s admit right here that not everyone is cut out for everything. Not everyone will be a good driver, a good officer or even a good firefighter or medical provider. Many a great firefighter or paramedic has made a horrible officer, and vice versa.

Here are my top three ways to encourage team building amongst our troops:

Inclusiveness. Provide opportunities for everyone to participate. This can be as simple as an invitation to be a part of something, to provide specific input, just to have the chance to be heard. This doesn’t mean you’ll hear from everyone – trust me. It does mean that people know you’ll at least ask. Make sure the opportunity is more than superficial – are the participants really being heard?

Follow-through, decision making and communication. One of the biggest turnoffs for people is a lack of follow-through, communication and a definitive decision-making processes. It’s fantastic that you’ve brought folks together, solicited their opinion and weighed the options; now you need to make a decision and communicate, communicate, communicate. There will still be folks who won’t get it or who will find an excuse to say they “didn’t know.” Make sure this is not the result of your lack of communication.

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January Fleet Report

Fleet Manager Domenic Scaife

Update from Fleet Maintenance: Recently serviced we had E-51, E-58 and E-661 in for routine services and repairs. E-58 still had the older Amkus extrication gear so it was updated with a new TNT set. This involves more than just throwing it on the Engine. A new pull out tray was fabricated so that all equipment has an exact location for storage and everything is easy to get to. WT54, Rescue-58 and Utility-53 all were in for repairs and annual service. Patrol-59 was brought to the shop after a tire was burned up in the last wildland fire. While it was here it was also outfitted with a different style air cleaner assembly, a spare filter is in the compartment. Currently E-50 is in the shop with a bad radiator. The new one just arrived this week and is in the process of being installed. E-54 is now in the shop for service and repairs along with WT-53 for pump repairs. During the last big winter storm the Administration Jeep was totaled in an accident. Because of this the Battalion 6 Highlander has been moved to Administration until further notice. We have bumped up the Jeep replacement in our capital

replacement plan and hope to purchase something early on in the next budget year. Once a new vehicle is purchased the Highlander will be routed back to battalion 6.

Outside agency repair: We are in the process of scheduling Walker and Yavapai college to bring some vehicles in soon.

Update on the new apparatus order: The new Impalas are in service. They came out really good. I want to give a shout out to Chris Peckham as this was his first new vehicle lighting install. The overall fit and finish was outstanding and the vehicles have a very clean look. I also want to thank Tony Frazier from IT/COMM for his help on the radio install on both units. As always there will be an elaborate vehicle shuffle and many vehicle assignments that change based on the in service of the two Impalas. First of all, Chief Freitag's Tahoe has been reassigned to Fire Prevention. Chief Tharp's Tahoe has been reassigned to Operations as a travel vehicle. Stay tuned as the rest of the changes should be on next month's report.



Next on our fleet list:

- E-54 service/repairs
- WT-51 pump work
- E-63 service/ repairs
- E-552 service/ repairs
- Walker fire
- Yavapai College
- Outfit New chief vehicles
- Mechanic Beck is in the field at battalion 6 stations trying to catch up on repair requests. If you need something else please let him know.

Thermal Imager Cameras: We recently purchased two more of the Bullard T-4 Maxx Cameras. We now have these units on all frontline and reserve engines. We even have one older T4 as a Spare. So far these cameras have held up great compared to the older cameras we were using. We hope to get a couple more next year so that we can finally put one on the Battalion 6 vehicle and have a new unit as a spare. We have noticed that we had a batch of batteries that didn't hold a charge well. Crews were reporting operating time of 10 minutes or less on a full charge. If you are having that issue please contact Charlie or Chris and they will get you different batteries.

Chief's Desk Continued

Things change when we get in the field and begin to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of a real emergency scene. It's different when it's in your face and you're experiencing it as opposed to approaching it clinically while looking at a book with class mates.

Back in my day – sorry, had to throw that in to lighten the tone. But seriously, when I started there really wasn't a discussion regarding the impact of exposure to traumatic events and/or what impact those exposures may have. While in paramedic school I was doing a clinical at a children's hospital in downtown St. Louis. I remember a baby in a pumpkin seat arriving in the Emergency Room with

significant head trauma. The accompanying adult, can't remember exactly who, reported the child was injured when their older sibling, maybe 2 or 3, had dropped a Tonka Truck on the baby's head. My daughter was about the same age as the sibling and I was very familiar with Tonka Trucks. The damage to that baby's head based on the height of the sibling and the weight of even the old metal trucks was not consistent with the story. I tried to tell the nurse, but as a "student" what did I know. The baby seized in CT, which prompted further inquiries and finally an admission of abuse. As a young dad, seeing the abuse of a baby first hand was devastating to me.

I went to my paramedic instructor and let her know what had happened and that it had bothered me, to the point that I was seeing the baby's likeness in the dark. The response? Yeah, that can happen, but you'll get over it. I did, but still 25 years later while the face has faded, the thought of the incident has not. It's not traumatic to me, and I only think of it when I'm writing something like this, but that incident does live on.

I also remember a head-on collision between a Ford F150 pickup and a tractor trailer on Interstate 70. I'm not going to get into the exact details of what I saw, but suffice to say the pickup was on one shoulder of the Interstate and the driver on the other. He still had a viable heartbeat, but his injuries were significant. In reality, I remember exactly what I saw that night, but it has never been him that bothered me (highly inebriated driver). What always bothered me was listening to his wife scream in the Emergency Room. The emotional injury to his wife who was just waiting at home for him to arrive is what really had an impact. That was the only time in my career that my partner and I left without finishing the report while in the ER and had to come back later to file the finalized document. I just couldn't be in that place.

These are just a couple of examples; I've shared others with you all in the past. I still see faces, hear the sounds and occasionally am reminded of the smells. I'm fortunate that my career has not had a more significant impact on my psychological wellbeing. Bottom line is that we are all wired differently, and impacted by emotional trauma in different ways.



Times have definitely changed. Today, if an emergency responder reported what I did to a peer, there would be immediate support. That is absolutely outstanding! However, we are still not providing this information in our academies. In my mind, there should be a class that discusses the reality of trauma exposure, followed by a program that talks about available resources, and then reinforcement that it is okay to say, "This really bothered me and I need to talk." Needing to have a conversation does not necessarily mean you need to be in counseling, it just means you need to get your thoughts out.

Additionally, I advocate for crews staying together if they wish, or going home if they wish. I've always felt, based on my experience over the years that the person or persons need to decide, unless there are extenuating circumstances. At one agency I worked for early in my career, we had a crew responding to

a call and a car slid sideways across four lanes of traffic in front of them. There was nothing the Engineer could do to avoid the out of control vehicle in his path. The driver of the car was killed instantly in the collision. In this instance, the crew was sent home. While our Chief liked to keep crews together, the fact is that something like this has both psychological and legal implications which dictate the crew goes home. On the other hand, we had a young firefighter that went into cardiac arrest on a treadmill in the basement of a Station immediately following his shift. Despite their efforts, the on duty crew could not get a sustainable rhythm and he died at the hospital. That crew stayed together and on duty for the day.

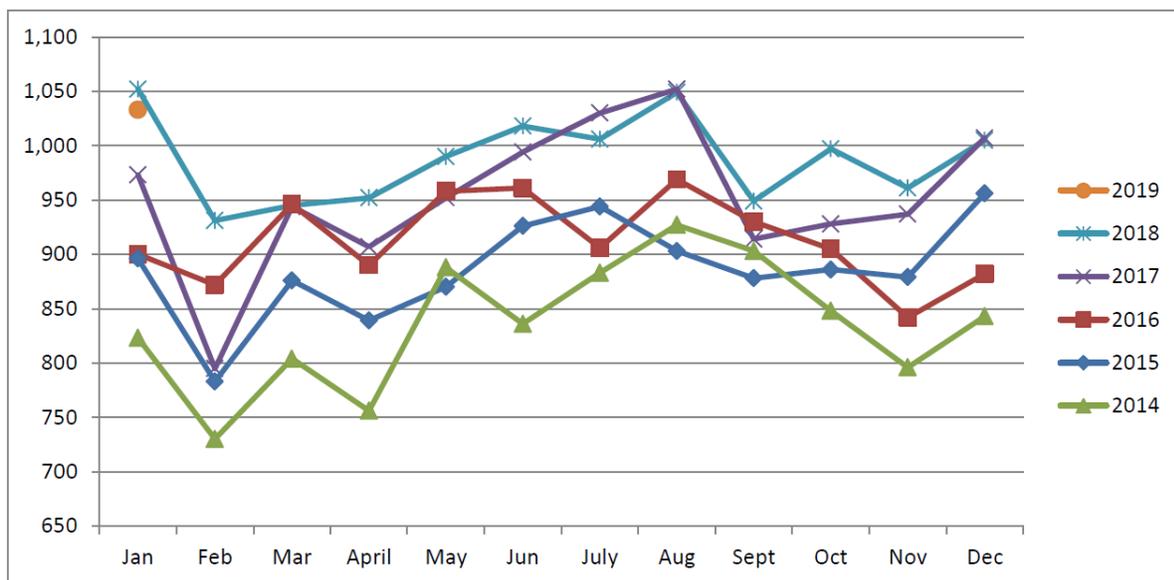
The reality is that we understand each other and can appreciate what we've just experienced. If we default to sending someone home, what are we sending them to? They are now going to be with family members who have not experienced the same traumatic event, and who don't necessarily understand the impact. In all likelihood, responders go home and feel more isolated. To that end, I support letting the individual/crew decide what they want, when feasible.

In the end, I guess I need to speak with Chief Feddema and Patty about adding something to our academy – expect a call/email. Times have changed and for the most part we have changed with them. I had the chance to visit briefly with a couple members of 58's crew Thursday afternoon. They are doing well and are being provided whatever support they deem necessary.

Bottom line, we are going to see, hear, feel and smell things in our career that will burn images into our brains. And when we do, we will be there for each other, and as an agency we are wholly committed to providing whatever assistance you need. You just need to ask.

January Response Report

GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman





January Response Report - 2019

Land Area: 365 sq. miles Population: 86,865 Fire Stations: 10 Full-Staffed

Responses in District

TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	11
STRUCTURE FIRE	1
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	3
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	1
VEHICLE FIRE	3
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	1
OTHER/TRASH FIRE	2

Fire is 1.07% of call volume

TOTAL EMS	680
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EMS is 65.83% of call volume

OVERPRESSURE	0
HAZMAT	12
SERVICE	191
GOOD INTENT	93
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	46

Other is 33.11% of call volume

TOTAL # OF CALLS	1,033
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Residential Fire Loss	\$346,325
Commercial Fire Loss	\$0
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$100

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	169
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	515
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	51
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	298
Calls Out of District	5

Average total # of calls per day	33.33
Average fire calls per day	0.36
Average EMS calls per day	21.94
Average all other calls per day	11.03

Aid Given to Prescott	129
Aid Received from Prescott	70
Mutual Aid Given	1
Mutual Aid Received	0

Unit Responses

	In District	Total
E50	175	182
E51	30	178
E53	172	177
E54	144	145
E57	46	47
E58	123	125
E59	96	110
E61	99	100
E62	114	121
E63	61	63
T50	11	15
B3	40	46
B6	33	36

Call Volume at PRCC

	MONTH	YTD
PFD	818	818
CAFMA	1,033	1,033
GCFD	12	12
OD	4	4
WKFD	2	2

Top 5 Call Types

645	EMS
100	Assist Invalid
59	Cancelled en Route
51	Public Service Assistance
13	Vehicle Accident No Injuries

Move Ups by Station

50: 67	57: 12
51: 81	61: 14
53: 18	62: 9
54: 2	63: 33
58: 3	
59: 10	TOTAL: 249