



Enroute

with
Fire Chief Richard Bowers

Issue #1

November 2011

New Look

With this update, I am please to introduce our new format. A lot goes on in the department and each month I will try to give you an update in **Enroute**. If you have anything going on in the station or have participated in any projects, etc., please forward them to A/C Scott Graham for consideration.

Thanksgiving Greetings

As we enter into the major holiday season of 2011, I would like to thank each of you for your service, not only to the community, but to MCFRS. There are many sacrifices made each day by career and volunteer members. Many of these sacrifices go without saying or recognition, but I assure you that in the big picture, our successes would not be possible without you. I wish each of you and your families a very safe and Blessed Thanksgiving. A holiday schedule will be in effect on Thursday 11/24 through Sunday 11/27/2011.

Reaccreditation Update

As we approach our 1st draft date of November 30, all work groups are working diligently to complete task assignments. We are 75% to the finish line! Rick Black, program director for the Center for Fire Accreditation International (CFAI), recently met with the Fire Chief and Senior staff to address questions and concerns related to the accreditation process. All parties were pleased with the exchange of information and are committed to our achievement of becoming reaccredited.

In-Service Training

In-Service Training (Mayday/Flashover) is wrapping up. We have trained over 970 career, volunteer and federal firefighters. The feedback on this training was very positive from the attendees. Captain Darrell Walker is currently conducting In-Station driver education. In the next edition, we will provide an update.

Code Saves

Recently, MCFRS members were recognized for their exemplary work in saving lives. I would like to congratulate and thank them for their performance.

- Inc #110109392, October 2, 2011
 - Crews from E728, A728, M704. Primary provider: FP Sean Carroll. Assisted by FP Jonathan Johnson (M704), FF Daniel Leister, Thomas Marble, Capt. Tommy Gartner, FF James Taylor, FF Matthew Rimland and FF Reggie Saunders.
 - Responded for CP. Arrived to find 61 yom reporting CP while doing yard work. Pt walked to ambulance, but coded enroute to hospital. Pt went through numerous cardiac rhythm changes during the event, including several defibrillations, and ending w/ transcutaneous cardiac pacing. VERY difficult/challenging to manage this patient. But delivered to SGAH as viable, and did, in fact, have a good outcome.

- Unsolicited letter from physician at SGAH giving very high praise for the work of this crew.
- Inc #110105261, September 20, 2011
 - Crews from E718, RS742, A742E. Primary provider: FP Nick Wagner. Assisted by Capt. Tyrone DeMent, MF Scott Stokes, FF Jason Luksis, as well as EMTs Carroll, Smith and Deras from R2.
 - Responded for SP w/ DECLOC. Found adult male patient in cardiac arrest witnessed by family members. Patient in asystolic rhythm throughout call. All appropriate interventions aggressively implemented, such that patient was stabilized at HCH and was taken to the Cath Lab. He was found to have 100% blockage of the LAD (Left Anterior Descending) Artery, aka the "widow maker". Pt was extubated 3 days later and discharged home approximately 1 week beyond that date.
 - Excellent job here, as well. Positive feedback provided by Dr. Ofiero, HCH ED Medical Director.

ISO Rating

MCFRS has formally requested an updated ISO survey that will begin on or after December 15, 2011. The ISO survey results in a public protection classification rating for Montgomery County, MD through an evaluation of critical water supply infrastructure, alarm processing, training, vehicles, equipment, and staffing. We expect the survey to be completed by the end of CY2012.

Battalion Chief Mark Davis (BC5-A) has agreed to serve as the primary point of contact and my representative for this initiative. In that role, Chief Davis will be reaching out to various representatives of the MCFRS to gather critical information necessary to complete the ISO survey. The most recent survey and rating was completed in the mid 1970's.

Even though this survey will run parallel to our Center for Public Safety Excellence Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CAFI) assessment, we are encouraged that the investments that have been made in public safety since the 1970's will reflect positively on our overall ISO rating. As you may know, this can impact the fire insurance ratings of our residents and return a portion of their investments through improved insurance premiums.

Please extend every effort and courtesy to Chief Davis and others as they complete their work on this important initiative.

Notes to End On

Toys for Tots - MCFRS and the LFRDs will be participating in toy drives again this year. Information will be forthcoming. I am certain that there will be an increased need this year and look forward to everyone working together to meet that need.

COPDI – Any member of the department may attend COPDI sessions. Keep in mind that the sessions are non-compensable.

Remember – Train, Train, Train!