



Enroute

with
Fire Chief Richard Bowers

Issue #2

January 2012

A New Year, A New Commitment

2012 has started off with a significant number of tragedies. Automobile and pedestrian accidents have claimed the lives of six people in just a five day span. MCFRS crews worked diligently at these accidents and several posed quite a challenge during the extrication. There were 12 significant structure fire incidents as well. I am proud of the performance by all of our personnel.

If you are making a New Year's resolution for 2012, how about considering this; Resolve to focus on "the fundamentals and executing the basics perfectly". In everything you do from apparatus checks, PT, and area familiarization, to training within your companies. The winter months prove to be a good time to preplan and familiarize yourselves with buildings and target hazards in your first due areas as well as map and response route drills in the dayroom.

Incredible Work!

On December 2nd units responded to a reported pediatric code. Upon arrival units found an MCPD officer doing CPR on an 18 month old child. Crews quickly determined that there was a strong reason to believe a narcotic overdose could be causing the patient's grave condition. Treatment, including IV Narcan, was administered and the child was awake, alert and crying upon arrival at Holy Cross.

This is the type of call we train for. Your actions and the care you rendered to this child saved his life. It is not everyday you are faced with situations where your work truly makes such a difference but on this day, the family of this child, was lucky to have all of you trained, ready, and on the scene. You should be proud of the work you did on this incident. Your work does not go unnoticed by the department, we are proud to have you represent us.

All of this seems especially poignant during the past holiday season. This child's family's holiday celebration may have been very different if they had to deal with the sudden loss of their loved one. You had a big role in seeing they did not have to experience that. Be proud of the work you do, I am!

M742

FF/PM III Bradley Wilt
MFF Matt Sutton

E718

Lt/PM Ratana Koung
FF III Sam Martinez
FF/PM III Logan McGrane
FF II Troy Redcay

On Saturday December 3, 2011 apparatus responded to incident 110133954, the Fitness First in Olney finding a 61 year old male in cardiac arrest. A citizen was doing CPR and personnel had utilized the fitness center's AED. Your rapid actions on this incident and the care you rendered to the patient resulted in the patient regaining a pulse and consciousness enroute to the emergency room. This patient's outcome could have been much worse but thanks to all of you he survived the event.

It seems especially poignant during the holiday season. His family's holiday celebration may have been very different if they had to deal with the sudden loss of their loved one. You had a big role in seeing they did not have to experience that. Be proud of the work you do, I am!

Thanks for all you do out there and keep up the good work.

M704

FF/PM II Dennis Schmidt
FF II Todd Russell

E740

CA Jud Fox
MFF Steven Pifer
FF III Matt Rimland

PE704

CA/PM Jane Knopfmacher
FF III William Hahn

A740

FF II Brian Park
FF II Brandon Kelly

On Wednesday, November 30, 2011 apparatus responded to incident 110132712, Shady Grove and Molecular Dr. finding a 49 year old male in cardiac arrest. When units arrived on scene, a citizen was doing CPR. The rapid actions on this incident and the care rendered to the patient resulted in the patient regaining a pulse. This patient eventually went to the cath lab and his prognosis is good. His outcome could have been much worse but thanks to all of you he survived the event.

It seems especially poignant during the holiday season. His family's holiday celebration may have been very different if they had to deal with the sudden loss of their loved one. You had a big role in seeing they did not have to experience that. Be proud of the work you do, I am!

Thanks for all you do out there and keep up the good work.

M703

MFF/PM John Lyons
FF III Ryan Travers

PE703

Lt Peter Hageman
MFF Scott Ward
FF III Isaias Funes - Calderon
FF/PM II Chad Rogers

Accreditation Update

All work groups are now 100% complete as all documents are currently being proofread for grammatical errors and format consistency. Once all documents have been approved, they will be uploaded to the CFAI website for review by the assigned Peer Assessment Team Leader. At that point, a determination will be made whether or not MCFRS will be eligible for a site visit. The on site evaluation is the process by which a group of representatives made up of 3-5 members from comparable departments visits the applicant agency to validate agency goals, objectives, and standards through discovery. Typically, the length of the visit ranges from three to five days. Assistant Chief Jeff Farris of the Honolulu Hawaii Fire Department has been assigned to act as our Peer Team Leader and mentor for the remainder of the process. Chief Farris is currently in charge of the Administrative Services Bureau of the Honolulu Fire Department. It is our hope to see Assistant Chief Farris and the remainder of the team representatives in early April for the site evaluation.

NFPA 1710 Project – High Rise Staffing

The IAFF, IAFC, NIST, and MCFRS may be partnering once again for a second fireground field deployment experiment. The High Rise Field Deployment Experiment will concentrate on fireground operations in a high hazard occupancy while identifying the impact various staffing levels will have on critical fireground task completion. Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell, Special Assistant to the General President of the International Association of Fire Fighters, is the technical director of the project and will be working closely with MCFRS in hope of securing the HHS building located at 5600 Fishers Lane in Rockville.

Recently a number of our personnel along with units from Fairfax County assisted Dr. Moore and her panel of technical experts at our training academy as the burn building was used for a preliminary “walk thru” to confirm time to task measures for the actual experiment.

Some of the technical experts included: Dennis Compton, Retired Chief of Mesa, Arizona; Russ Sanders, Retired Chief from Louisville Kentucky and high rise author; Peter Van Dorpe, Chicago Fire Department Chief of Training; David Rohr, Chief of Fairfax City, Retired Chief of Operations, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue. In an effort to pre-determine baseline times for the experiment, Fire Station 23, C Shift recently completed a high rise ascent of 15 floors with standard equipment including:

- 150' of 2 ½" hose with nozzle (3 sections, one per firefighter)
- accessory bag with 1 carabiner, 100' of webbing, pipe wrench, 2 spanner wrenches, 2 ½" to 1 ½" gated wye
- PPE and SCBA

Three crews of three traveled separately and accomplished the following times:

- **Team one in 4:16**
- **Team two in 4:01**
- **Team three in 3:36**
- **AVERAGE TIME 3:96**

Their great work and effort set the bar for the experiment.

Operations Changes

The following changes have taken place in the Division of Operations Executive Office.

A/C John Kinsley has been promoted and assigned to head the new Public Safety Systems Modernization Project. B/C Gary Cooper has been appointed to serve as the Operations Division Executive Officer. In our next issue, John will share an overview of the project. In the meantime, here is the new contact information for both John and Gary.

Public Safety Systems Modernization Project
Assistant Chief John Kinsley

Desk phone: 240-777-2636
Interoffice Mail: A/C John Kinsley -- PSSM – 255 Hungerford Dr

Operations Division Executive Officer
Battalion Chief Gary Cooper

Desk Phone: 240-777-2285
Interoffice Mail: B/C Gary Cooper – FRS – 12th Floor EOB

Smoke Alarm Donation from Pepco

MCFRS accepted a generous donation of smoke alarms from Pepco officials on Wednesday, December 14th. The smoke alarms will be used as aggressive community outreach by firefighters continues in response to the County's third senior citizen fire fatality of the year.

The County has suffered three structural fire fatalities this year in involving a senior citizen in which there were **NO** working smoke alarms in the house.

"Pepco's Emergency Services Partnership Program has donated smoke alarms to the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service for several years as part of their long-standing commitment to public safety," said Chief Bowers. Based on today's challenging budgets, this donation comes at a critical time and will fill a very important need in the community."

"All of us at Pepco are very proud of the excellent working relationship we have with our first responders throughout the service territory. These smoke alarms are just another way for Pepco to support the life saving work that the dedicated men and women of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service perform every day," said Jerry Pasternak, VP Pepco Region - Maryland.

With cold weather arriving, working smoke alarms provide vital, early warning of fire or smoke conditions and are truly life-saving. "We are proud to partner with PEPCO and their generous donation will continue to have significant impact in keeping residents safe and saving lives," said Chief Bowers.

Pink Shirt Donation

The Montgomery County Career Fire Fighters Association IAFF Local 1664's Breast Cancer Awareness Committee is pleased to announce that the proceeds from the Local's October Pink T-Shirt Campaign has been donated to benefit the Maryland Affiliate of Susan G. Komen and the Red Devils, Inc. A third charity received proceeds, which helps fire fighters with different kinds of cancers.

October's pink uniform t-shirt campaign promoting breast cancer awareness raised over \$17,000! All of these organizations are Maryland based non-profits which work in the breast cancer community providing grants, education and access to resources, and assistance to firefighters (e.g. - transportation to and from treatment).

"Tapping Out"

The following personnel have retired since our last issue. We wish them the best of luck in their new chapters and look forward to seeing them at the POTS luncheons!

Capt. Bill Lippincott
Capt. Neal Trevey
Capt. Tim Thorne
FF Kenny Klejmont

MFF Joey Fuller
FF Leroy Isreal
FF Jon Krespan

Remember – Train, Train, Train!