



Superstition Fire & Medical District ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020



Coronavirus – COVID-19

The 2019/2020 fiscal year was one to remember, particularly when the news of COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus. The first case was identified in China in November of 2019. The virus soon spread across the world to become a global pandemic. By March of 2020, the United States began to experience surges in cases. As the virus moved across New York, Washington, Oregon, and California, it was only a matter of time before it made its way to Arizona.

SFMD quickly responded to the COVID-19 events by creating the Emergency Operations Team. Through this team working together SFMD worked rapidly with securing personal protective equipment, creating operational directives and protocols to keep our members and the community safe, secured funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) and the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA), and developed algorithms for worst-case scenarios.

Protecting our community is at the forefront of SFMD business. Whether it's a house fire, cardiac arrest, motor vehicle accident, or a patient in respiratory distress from COVID-19 SFMD is ready to respond with vigor.

Incident Type Categories

Rescue & EMS,
8135, 79%



Total
Incidents

10,359

Average
Response Time
Emergent
Incidents

4:18

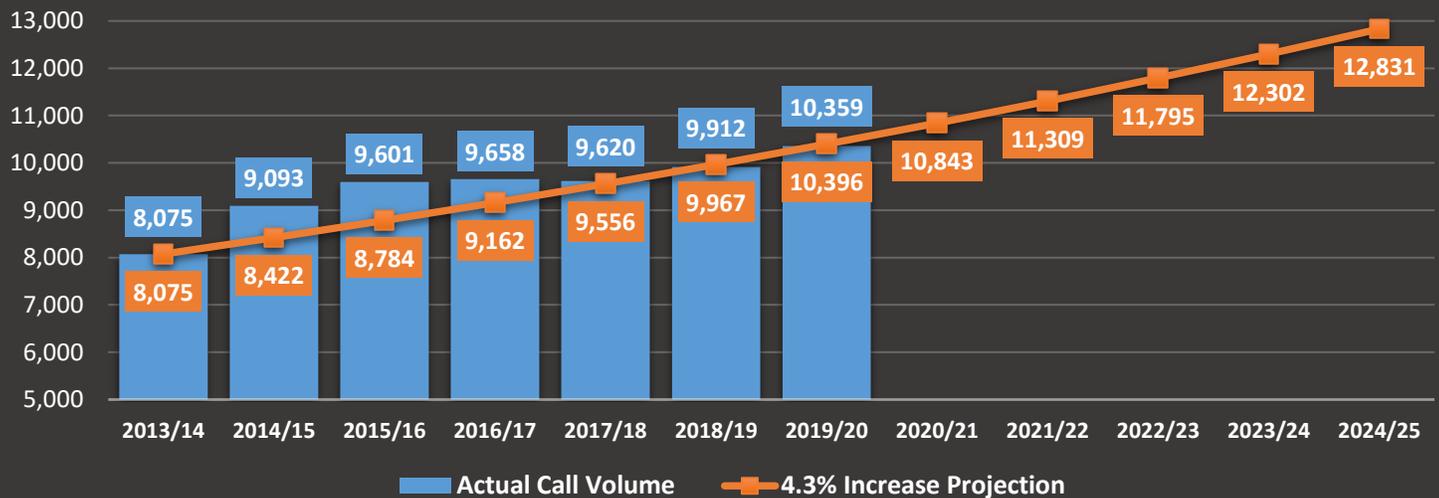
RESPONSE STANDARDS

Call Volume Increases

Calls for service have been steadily increasing over the past several years. During the 2019/2020 fiscal year, SFMD surpassed the 10,000 call threshold for the first time. Additionally, call volume increased by 4.5% this year as SFMD went from 9,912 calls last year to a total call volume of 10,359 this year.

Analysis of the past seven years of data indicates an average annual increase in call volume of 4.3%. A five-year projection suggests that call volume may surpass 12,000 calls per year in just four to five years' time.

Call Volume - 5 Year Projection



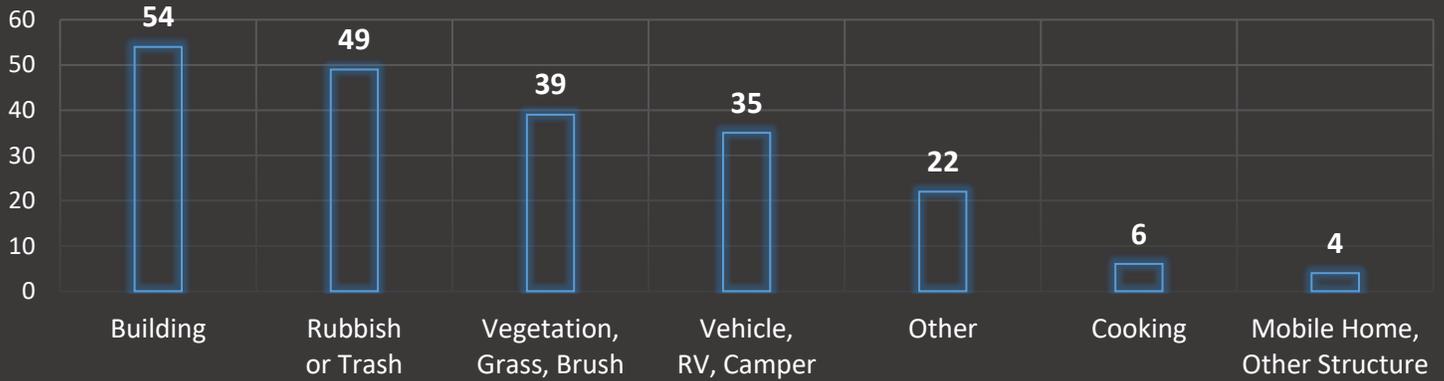
NFPA 1710 Fire Response Standard 2 Engines + 1 Ladder

	Jan-Jun 2018 E263 Pilot Program	2018/2019 Fiscal Year	2019/2020 Fiscal Year
Total Fires	20	19	30
Arrived in less than 8 minutes	7 – 35%	9 – 47%	22 – 73%
Arrived between 8-9 minutes	3 – 15%	2 – 11%	3 – 10%

In January of 2018, the Fire Board approved a second unit to station 263. This unit triggered changes to SFMD's response model, such as an increase in response time, an increase in an effective response force, and a reduction in firefighter fatigue. As you can see in just two short years, SFMD has gone from having an effective response force on all fires 35% of the time to 73% in the 2019/2020 fiscal year.

FIRE SUPPRESSION

Types of Fires



Pre-Incident Value of Property & Content
\$7.7 million

Value of Property & Content Saved
\$4.7 million

Percentage of Property & Content Saved
61%

Average Response Times by Unit

	Processing Time	Turnout Time	Travel Time	Reflex Time
Battalion 261	3:20	0:39	6:15	10:14
Engine 261	0:49	0:47	3:44	5:19
Engine 262	1:06	1:00	5:27	7:33
Ladder 263	0:49	0:57	4:27	6:13
Engine 263	0:51	1:04	4:02	5:57
Ladders 264	1:21	0:55	4:35	6:51
Engine 265	1:09	1:09	5:20	7:37
All Fire Apparatus	0:58	0:56	4:18	6:12

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Cardiac Arrest Survival Rate

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	5 Years
Initial Rhythm V-fib/V-tach	13	10	25	20	22	90
Survived to Hospital Discharge	4	4	7	6	7	28
Overall Survival Rate	30.8%	40.0%	28.0%	30.0%	31.8%	31.1%



2019 Cardiac Arrests

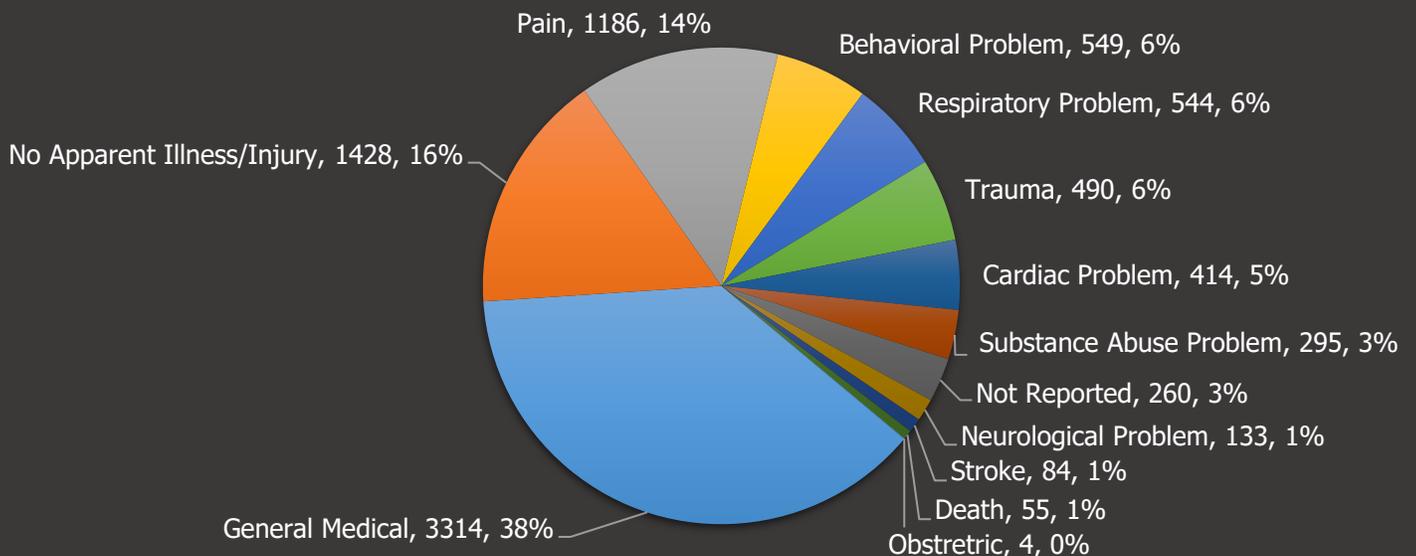
SFMD Survival Rate

31.8%

Arizona Survival Rate

10.5%

EMS Call Types



TRANSPORT SERVICES

Total Transports

5,309

This is a 1.9% increase from last year's total of 5,210.

Average Ambulance Transports per Day

14.5



Code 3 Ambulance Response Time Compliance Rates

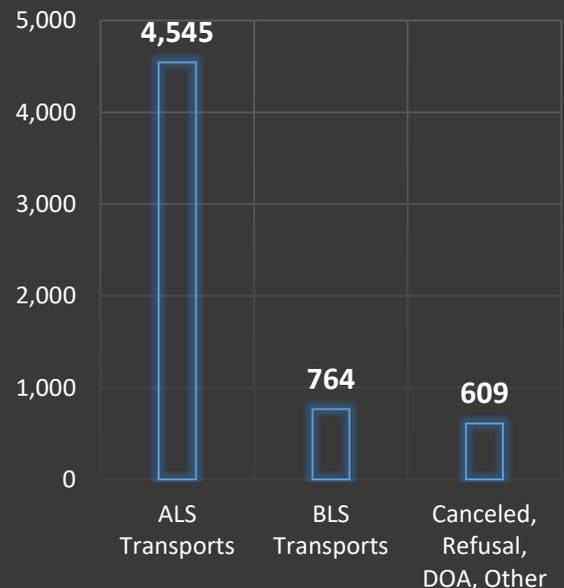
	AZ Dept. of Health Services Compliance Standard	SFMD Compliance Jan. 2016 – Feb. 2019 Evaluation Period	SFMD Compliance Mar. 2019 – Feb. 2020 Evaluation Period (To date through Jun. 2020)
Percentage of Call at 8:59 or less	90%	96.7% ✓	94.9% ✓
Percentage of Calls at 14:59 or less	95%	99.9% ✓	100% ✓
Percentage of Calls at 19:59 or less	100%	100% ✓	100% ✓

The SFMD is approaching almost five years in the emergency transport business. The Transport Services Department continues to be a source of pride for the SFMD. Our dedicated Transport Paramedics and EMTs work with SFMD fire crews to provide a seamless transfer of care as patients are transported to the hospital for continued medical treatment.

The cost recovery model has proven itself to be a sustainable source of revenue that allows SFMD to fund the labor, supplies, and ambulances needed to offer this service to our citizens – all while charging less than a private, for-profit ambulance company.

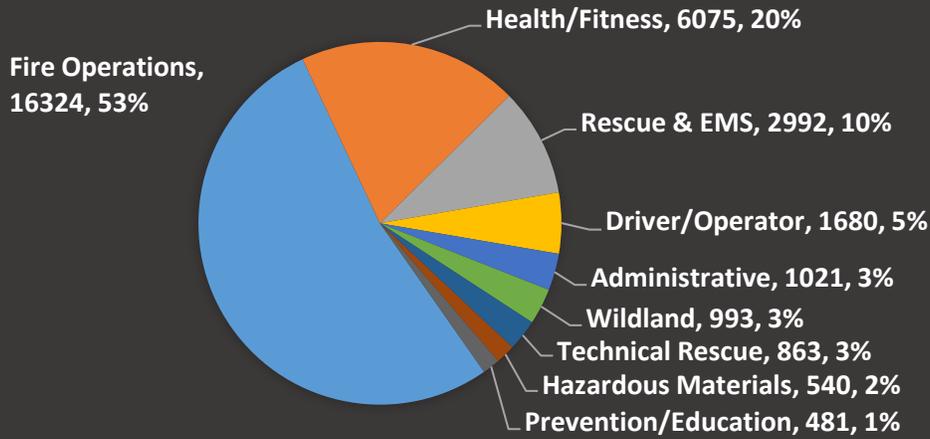
SFMD has also entered its second 3-year compliance period for ambulance response times with the AZ Department of Health Services. Response times are on track to exceed the required response time standards.

Transport Service Requests



TRAINING & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Training Hours



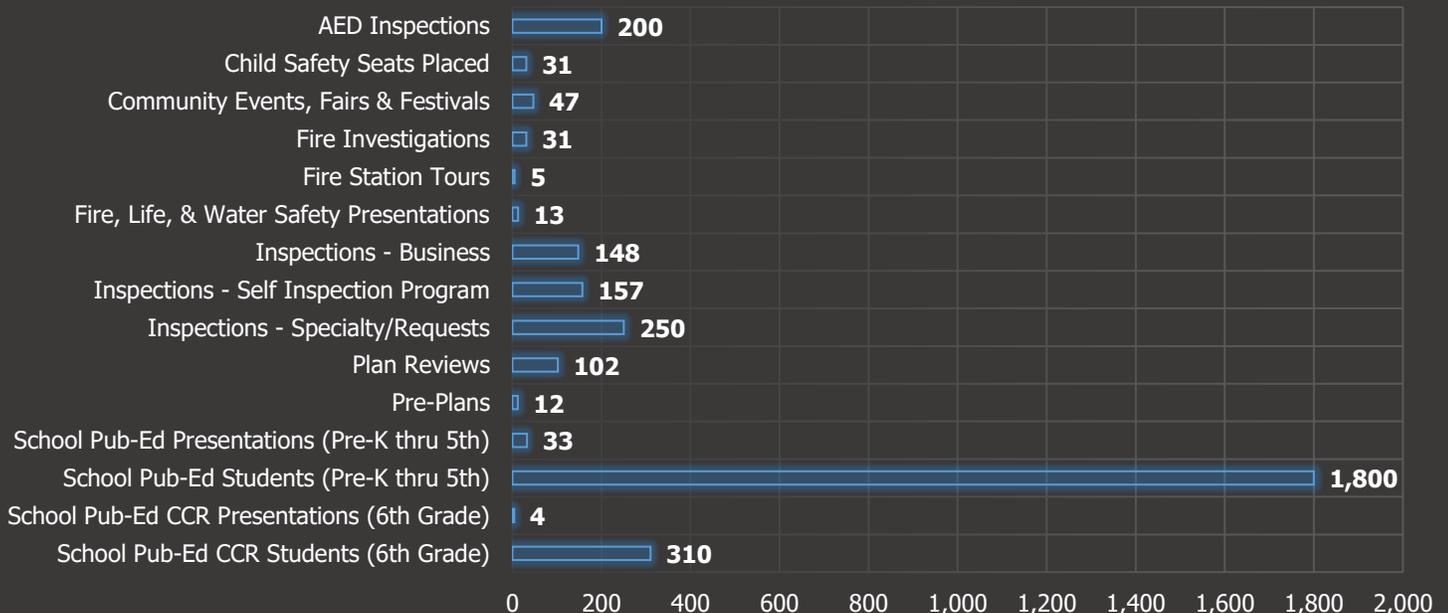
Total Training Hours
27,607

CCR Demonstrations (Hands-Only CPR)

1,185
community members
trained to perform this
life-saving technique



Community Services



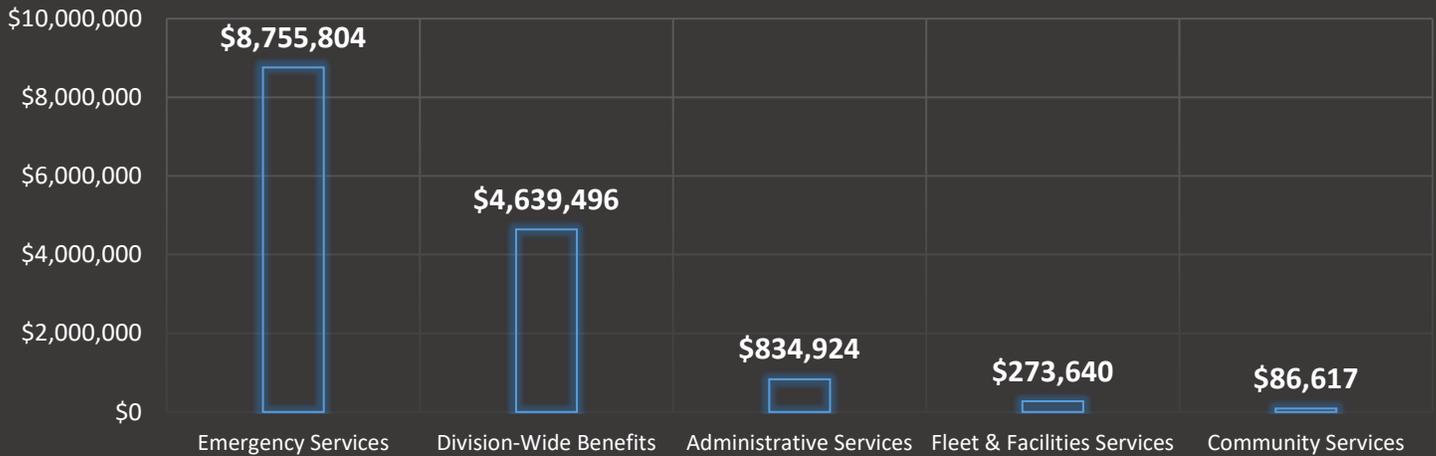
ANNUAL BUDGET

Budget Income Summary

Revenue Summary by Fund Account (Includes Beginning Cash Balance)

Fund	2019/2020 Actual Budget	2019/2020 Approved Budget	2020/2021 Approved Budget	2021/2022 Forecasted Budget
General Operating (M&O)	\$ 16,391,308	\$ 16,464,076	\$ 17,297,194	\$ 17,788,158
Transport Services	\$ 3,424,167	\$ 3,170,075	\$ 3,585,291	\$ 3,585,778
Capital Projects	\$ 1,772,064	\$ 1,792,597	\$ 1,737,207	\$ 1,891,971
Special Revenue	\$ 80,234	\$ 79,538	\$ 88,357	\$ 36,057
Debt Retirement Principal	\$ 794,237	\$ 771,692	\$ 792,437	\$ 797,466
Debt Retirement Interest	\$ 210,047	\$ 231,145	\$ 190,514	\$ 191,314
	\$ 22,672,056	\$ 22,509,123	\$ 23,691,000	\$ 24,290,744

Compensation for Fiscal Year 2019/2020



Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019/2020



OTHER FUNDING

August 2020 Grant Award

This year SFMD received \$208,359 in Federal funding from FEMA for cancer screening of our employees. As a result of occupational exposure to various toxins and carcinogens daily, firefighters have a 9% higher risk of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer compared to the general US population. In addition to more firefighters being diagnosed with cancer, firefighters are being diagnosed with cancer at an earlier age. In turn, concern and anxiety around cancer and their risk of developing it are rising, often driving firefighters to retire earlier. This cancer education and screening program aims to educate firefighters about their cancer risk and the screening tests that are available for early detection, as well as screen all firefighters for various types of cancers they are known to be at higher risk of developing.

Grant Awards History

Grant Name	Amount	Year Awarded
SCBA	\$ 347,000	2013/14
Smoke Alarms	\$ 19,060	2013/14
Radios	\$ 138,943	2013/14
Video Conferencing	\$ 93,000	2015/16
Ambulance	\$ 200,539	2015/16
Command Training	\$ 91,979	2016/17
Fire Prevention	\$ 23,000	2016/17
Community Risk	\$ 110,735	2017/18
SAFER	\$ 1,159,829	2018/19
Cancer Screening	\$ 208,359	2020/21
TOTAL	\$ 2,392,444	



WILDLAND FIRES

Lost Dutchman Fire

A brush fire in Apache Junction caused the evacuation of residences and closed nearby State Route 88 on May 7, 2020. A brush fire in Apache Junction behind the rodeo grounds near Tomahawk Road and Lost Dutchman Boulevard forced the evacuation of residences on nearby Hackamore Road, according to a series of tweets by the Apache Junction Police Department. After it started in the afternoon it grew to be a three-alarm brush fire that had “jumped the initial fire break” near SR 88 in Apache Junction, Superstition Fire & Medical District said in a tweet.

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-wildfires/2020/05/07/apache-junction-police-brush-fire-forces-residential-evacuations/3092550001/>

Southern Fire

The federal Bureau of Land Management said a second fire started about two miles south of the Lost Dutchman Fire, east of Goldfield Road near Southern Avenue, at 4:37pm. Single engine air tankers dropped flame retardant on both fires, the BLM said.

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-wildfires/2020/05/07/apache-junction-police-brush-fire-forces-residential-evacuations/3092550001/>



Sawtooth Fire

The Sawtooth Fire started on May 30, 2020. It burned on Arizona State Lands, private land, and the Tonto National Forest, including portions of the Superstition Wilderness area, of the Tonto National Forest. The fire started with a lightning strike and was located two miles Northeast of Peralta Trailhead. SFMD deployed a wildland team to assist in the control and containment of the Sawtooth Fire.

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6730/>

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Firefighters of the Year



Robert Vande Krol
Engineer/EMT



Randy Vande Krol
Firefighter/Paramedic

Both Randy and Robert VandeKrol have contributed collectively and individually through their many talents and dedication to the organization. Rob joined the district in 2002, promoted to Engineer (Driver-Pump Operator) in 2008. Randy, a Firefighter/Paramedic, joined the district in 2005. Both Rob and Randy are long-standing members of the district's elite Technical Rescue Team.

Both continuously go above and beyond the call of service in support of SFMD and citizens of the district. Both serve as SCBA Technicians and lead the team in the maintenance, repair and testing of all air packs. They also conduct our annual fit testing (seal check) of the SCBA and N95 masks. They conduct regular testing and maintenance of all of the district's MSA gas monitors. Additionally, they are known valley-wide as instructors for Technical Rescue Team and are specifically requested every year by the training consortium to instruct Building Collapse and Shoring Classes. Rob and Randy also built many of the props at our training center.

Transport Services Employee of the Year



Sarah Koupal
*Emergency Medical
Technician*

Sarah Koupal was chosen as the Transportation Services Employee of the Year because of her outstanding attitude toward her job. Ms. Koupal is dedicated, reliable, and her performance is outstanding in every aspect of her career. Her duties, responsibilities, and service to the community are paramount. Ms. Koupal's interactions with the public and with her co-workers are professional and caring at all times.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Civilian Employees of the Year



Lori Hlavin

Account Clerk II – Payroll

Lori always demonstrates a professional and caring demeanor to every single person, employee, staff member, co-worker, community member, and Board Member she comes in to contact with. Everything she does, she does with a smile and a pleasant attitude. Lori's work speaks for itself. I have seen her work weekends, holidays, nights, days off, and even during her time of personal loss, she remains dedicated to SFMD and making sure everyone is paid accurately and on time. Lori has demonstrated her commitment to her job and to the employees of SFMD over and over, time and time again.

Sherry has a friendly and approachable demeanor with a superior ability to empathize with issues an employee may bring to her attention. Sherry has accepted additional responsibilities and has acquired the knowledge necessary to effectively handle each task. Sherry makes a point of greeting each Admin office employee by their name every morning, with a smile and enthusiastic "good morning." Why is this so important? Using an employee's name humanizes the employee and makes them feel connected and valued, rather than just a "cog in the wheel." Most of us have stressful responsibilities both inside and outside of SFMD, and Sherry's friendly greeting really helps to start the day feeling noticed and appreciated.

Sherry's approachable and non-judgmental demeanor helps ensure that an employee feels comfortable bringing a concern or question to her attention. Sherry makes sure the employee knows that SFMD cares about their well-being and is available to provide confidential resources to assist them within the scope of Human Resources. The warmth of her kind and understanding words really elevate each human resource experience above "just filling out the necessary forms."

Sherry's responsibilities have expanded from recruitment and benefits administration to handling several board meeting agendas and minutes (SFMD monthly Board of Director's meeting, Ad Hoc committee, pension board, etc.). Sherry has accepted these responsibilities without complaint and has learned the system processes and legal posting deadlines that apply to each of the meetings. Sherry's professional attitude and ability to interact with the SFMD attorney and Board Members make her the perfect Admin employee to handle these important meetings.

In closing, each of the Administrative Services employees do a good job in their area of responsibility. There are great things about each of us. What sets Sherry apart from the rest of the Administrative Services employees is her HUMANIZING attitude and approach.



Sherry Mueller
HR Generalist

PROMOTIONS & ASSIGNMENTS



Amy Brooks
Battalion Chief

Amy Brooks was promoted to the position of Battalion Chief on December 31, 2019. Chief Brooks started with SFMD in July of 1993 and became a Captain in 1997, and now serves as a Battalion Chief. Chief Brooks brings 27 years of firefighting experience as well as expertise in fire and emergency medical services education through Central Arizona Community College.



Ryan Ledbetter
Captain

Ryan Ledbetter was promoted to the position of Captain on May 13, 2020. Captain Ledbetter started with SFMD in March of 2012. Captain Ledbetter is a member of Local 2260's Executive Board and spends much of his time mentoring others and working on special projects such as the Intern Academy.



Bryan Heun
Captain

Bryan Heun was promoted to the position of Captain on June 28, 2020. Captain Heun started with SFMD in March of 2012. Throughout his career, Captain Heun has mentored others, been a role model, and shown his commitment to the SFMD community. He also holds a Master of Arts Degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security from Arizona State University.



Tanner Fox
Training Captain

Captain Tanner Fox came to SFMD in September of 2005. He was promoted to the position of Engine Company Captain in 2017. In November of 2019, Captain Fox was assigned to the Training Department after a rigorous testing process. Captain Fox brings enthusiasm and 15 years of firefighting and EMS experience to the Training Department.
