



Year in Review | 2018

Chief's Message

In 2018, Scottsdale Fire Department responded to more than 37,000 calls for service through the city and within our automatic aid system boundaries. With emergency medical calls comprising most of our calls for service, a greater emphasis was placed on ensuring consistency in response throughout the city. This effort included the hiring of a quality assurance professional that evaluates and assesses the reliability and consistency of the application of our services and those of our transportation partner, Maricopa Ambulance. Additionally, we ensured that planned special events and 911 calls for service experience the exact same standard of services.

Our mission of “We Care for You” is represented in all that we do from facilitating the interests of the business community in our prevention services, to mitigating crisis’ within our community.

As the city grows and responds to economic, environmental and infrastructure changes, the fire department will forecast the prevention, mitigation and response needs and work collaboratively with all stakeholders to make Scottsdale a safer community.

We are proud to serve you and want to hear your feedback. Let us know how we are doing by sending an e-mail to fire@ScottsdaleAZ.gov or call (480) 312-8000.

Photo by Sgt. Mike Hanafin



2018

Total Emergency Calls	37,372
Total Medical Calls	26, 215
Fire Investigations	31
Fire Fatalities	0
Civilian Fire Injuries	5
Total Fire Property Damage	\$2,772,129
Property Saved	\$144,530,330
Average Travel Time (min:sec)	4:41
Daily Positions (365/24/7)	69
Sworn Personnel	269
Civilian Personnel	23
Public Interactions (school visits, station tours, events, etc.)	91,029
Car Seat Installations	485
Persons attended CPR/First Aid/Babysitting training	143
Individuals trained in Hands-Only CPR & Bleeding Emergencies	2,606
Number trained in Assembly Safety	329
Number of Volunteers	90
Volunteer Hours	2,163
Building Inspections	10, 607
Plan Reviews	2,967
Fire Safety Permits	424
FY 17-18 Budget	\$41,187,763
FY 18-19 Budget	\$41,359,218

Photo by Sgt. Mike Hanafin



Exceptional Incidents



In June, Scottsdale Fire Department units responded to a report of a very large fire to the exterior of a restaurant within the area of Via de Ventura and Hayden. As crews arrived on the scene, they found a large area of debris on fire between two buildings. Crews extinguished the fire very quickly. Crews also confirmed that there were no extensions to the interior of the structure. * * *

Emergency crews from Scottsdale, Tempe and Phoenix responded to the fire near the Loop 101 and Thomas around 10 p.m. on July 26. They found heavy smoke and flames from the back of the home with reports of dogs still inside.

Crews were able to extinguish the fire and were able to rescue eight dogs from inside. One dog was treated on scene and taken to a veterinarian for evaluation. An additional 16 dogs perished in the fire. Homeowners say they are an unofficial rescue shelter for dogs. * * *

Scottsdale, Tempe, Phoenix and Mesa crews were called to a fire isolated to a storage room at Navajo Elementary School in August. Crews on-scene quickly obtained fire control. Smoke was removed, but because of the damage to the school, students were moved to the Oak campus for the year while the school district considered moving the renovation plans up for the school. The exten-

sive investigation ruled that it did not appear to be arson. * * *

The crew on Engine 601 rescued a dog stuck in a chimney chute in early September. It was determined the puppy crawled through a small open access door that was located on the exterior of the home. Crews removed an approximate 2x2 foot sized area of drywall that exposed the masonry block construction wall of the ash chamber. After approximately 15 minutes of work, the opening was big enough to reach inside, and remove the dog. The dog appeared uninjured and happy to be in the arms of its owner. * * *

On Nov. 4, Adam Globerson

survived a “widowmaker” cardiac arrest. The 37-year-old’s life was saved by immediate administration of bystander CPR and the care of Scottsdale Fire medics, who worked on Adam for more than 30 minutes. * * *



In December, Scottsdale Fire Department responded to a gentleman who had been suspended 30 feet in the air in a bucket truck that broke down around 2 pm. The company had tried to repair the lift and finally had to call 911 to help get him down. Scottsdale Technical Rescue crews using a ladder truck reached the worker and assisted him onto the platform of the ladder and lowered him to the ground uninjured.

Division Highlights

Operations Division

Deputy Chief Deployment

In May 2018, Scottsdale Fire deployed Deputy 603 to the field as a senior level chief officer unit. The position is staffed by one Division Chief assigned for each of the three shifts: A, B, and C.

This unit manages all field operations within their assignment and has been found to be instrumental in bringing the management span of control to an effective size. Another benefit experienced from the deployment of Deputy 603 is the increase in regional relevance and networking with the neighboring communities.

The chiefs are also tasked with oversight of Special Operations, Wildland, and special events within Scottsdale, as well as high stress incident review. These tasks were previously managed by personnel at SFD headquarters.

Community Preparedness

The Hazardous Vegetation Fuel Assessment program provided the opportunity for fire companies to assess their communities for fire loading and overgrowth issues that may be present. Crews were given a predetermined group of map districts identified as the most susceptible to wildland urban interface fire potential. Deviations from prescribed norms were noted and notices were given to either the homeowners or the city for recommended corrections. The inspections covered approximately 93 square miles of the city and were conducted during the heaviest vegetation growth periods of the year (April to July).

Wildland summary

The 2018 fire season was not what was expected. Arizona had a slow season over all, with most large fire response being out of state. Crews experienced different fuel types and fire behavior found in California and the Pacific Northwest. The experience continued adding to their knowledge and skill.

The opportunity for our people to get this added experience is invaluable. Our professionalism and proficiency have better



prepared Scottsdale Fire to provide skilled wildland protection to our home community.

SFD aided 12 communities around the region during the 2018 wildland season. Six deployments were single resource and six consisted of four-person Type 6 companies.

Special Ops: TRT, HAZMAT, ARFF

The Technical Rescue Team worked within the regional partnership to maintain the Air Rescue Technician program. The team successfully performed several rescues within the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve during 2018.

Hazardous Materials Techs mitigated an increased volume of potential threats, such as white powder calls.

SFD took delivery of a new Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting secondary response apparatus in preparation for increased response capabilities.

This year the department also procured funding for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) training to certify all ARFF personnel within the organization. The training will take place in San Bernardino, Calif., in March 2019.

Division Highlights

Emergency Medical Services

This Division provides support and oversight for all sworn emergency medical technicians and emergency paramedics. The goal is to provide the highest quality of patient care for our residents and visitors from the emergency scene throughout the medical transport and until the final transfer to the hospital staff.

Our long standing relationship with the HonorHealth hospital network provides us with a valuable partner that assists with medical control and the delivery of prehospital emergency care. In conjunction with HonorHealth, Scottsdale Fire is either participating in or embarking on several quality control programs that will help to better identify potential upgrades or assist with gathering information that can be released through research projects. These include better documentation on cardiac arrest incidents and possible stroke patients.

We are also continuing to work with the HonorHealth Military Partnership in an effort to provide realistic Cardiac and Trauma training scenarios utilizing instructors and equipment from both agencies.

During this past year, additional relationships have been developed with our new medical transport partner, Maricopa Ambulance, along with on-going support for the paramedic training programs at Maricopa, Mesa and Paradise Valley Community Colleges.

Overall, we will continue to focus on quality control measures, improving training, evaluating new equipment and implementing clinical upgrades that will result in a higher level of care for Scottsdale’s residents, business owners and visitors.

Training

The Training Division was busy in 2018 managing recruitment, development and training for the department locally and regionally.

SFD graduated 13 recruits from Regional Fire Academies. Promotional processes for Captain and Battalion Chief were completed and conducted an additional round of interviews to replenish the candidate hiring list.

Scottsdale Fire continued to train and instruct at a regional level in a multitude of areas and disciplines: live fire drills, Save Your Own, Incident Safety Officer, mass casualty incidents, East Valley Regional Ladder Training, regional hazardous material training, technical rescue training, as well as other department centric topics. The division provided relevant and vital instruction for SFD members and regional partners.

Prevention Services

Prevention Services continued to refine and expand upon life safety, property inspection and fire investigation activities throughout the year. Meeting the increasing demands of construction and special events in Scottsdale, members of this division performed more than 10,500 inspections in 2018.

The Shift Deputy Fire Marshal program has shown significant success resulting in reduced fire investigation incident response times, increased after-hours, special event and high-risk occupancy inspection ability, and improved technical support for emergency response crews and local business owners.

Joint Police/Fire training for high-risk assembly occupancies continues to make impact. This training, combined with a newly developed special assembly permitting process, was expanded to address the usage of non-traditional assembly occupancies (such as aircraft hangars) for special events.

This was also an active year for Wildland Fire Prevention and Firewise activities. Scottsdale increased from five Nationally Certified Firewise Communities to seven with the addition of Whispering Ridge and Rio Montana. All other current Firewise communities recertified during 2018 for year 2019. Defensible space within the Preserve along roads, trailheads, and boundaries continued to be maintained to Firewise requirements.

Division Highlights

Professional Standards

This division supports the fire department’s strategy and mission through robust firefighter wellness programs and state of the art technology and data analysis.

Building better data analysis tools has been a key theme for 2018. Data driven decisions help the department maximize limited resources wisely and efficiently.

Scottsdale plays host to 9 million visitors a year at our special events. This year, focus was on providing increased technology that supports our Fire and Medical responders at Scottsdale’s signature events like Waste Management Phoenix Open, Barrett-Jackson and SF Giants Spring Training. Arming our event crews with GPS, “electronic clipboards” (Ipads), portable WIFI hot spots and increased cellular service through a partnership with Verizon, created enhanced level of service and safety to our citizens and visitors attending our events.



The firefighter profession has extreme life risk factors. Firefighter health and wellness continues to be in the forefront nationally, especially when cardiac health, cancer and suicides are taking firefighter lives too early. This year, we partnered with the University of Arizona in a “Sauna Study” to address the benefit of spending time in a sauna immediately after a fire to reduce toxic carcinogens in the body. Preliminary data show positive correlation, but official results will be out in 2019.

On-duty firefighter deaths have decreased nationally but firefighter suicides have continued to increase. Arizona HB2502 focuses on providing first responders more access to behavioral health specialists. We continue to make behavioral health a topic that does not carry stigma when talked about and will support our members by providing the resources needed for them.

We continue to focus on being physically ready to perform firefighter duties by supporting our Peer Fitness Trainer with mobile equipment used for crew based training. This functional training is essential throughout a firefighter’s career to support a goal of a healthy life after a firefighter has provided a lifetime of service.

Homeland Security

Homeland Security helps safeguard Scottsdale by functioning as a direct link between the fire department and local, state, and federal law enforcement partners.

Prevention of high risk threats and the effective response to these types of events may only occur if Scottsdale Fire and law enforcement partners have common tactics, common communications capabilities and common guidelines. The specially trained members of the Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) and Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) programs provide this link.

TLOs coordinated resources and ensured communication during planned events such as President Trump's recent visit to the valley, Waste Management Phoenix Open, Barrett-Jackson Auto Auction, and SF Giants Spring Training. TLOs also responded to unplanned emergency events, such as SWAT responses and Hazardous Materials incidents.

The TEMS program supports Police SWAT response to high risk incidents. Firefighter-Paramedics trained and responded alongside police departments 123 times during 2018.

As an integral component of the Phoenix Regional Urban Area Support Initiative, Scottsdale Fire received more than \$70,000 in federal grants to sustain these programs.

New Stations

During 2018, Scottsdale Fire saw the completion of two of the four projects approved and funded by the 2015 Bond Election.

FS605 received a complete interior remodel to provide contemporary work and living facilities to support a 24-hour work schedule. In addition, the apparatus bay was updated to include enclosed personal protective equipment (PPE) storage, a decontamination room, and a storage room containing laundry equipment. These improvements were designed to meet the recommendations of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The new Fire Station 613 completed construction and opened to respond in 2018. FS613 was relocated from a temporary facility to a new location and into a new facility. The new location was identified to improve response times by getting access to the city infrastructure of roads more efficiently and effectively. The new facility is an 11,000 sq./ft building that meets not only the recommendations and requirements of contemporary fire stations, but has immediately become a part of the neighborhood as a beacon of public safety.

The final two projects, relocating and new construction of FS603 and FS616, are set to begin construction in Spring 2019, with completion and opening for response slated for Summer 2020.



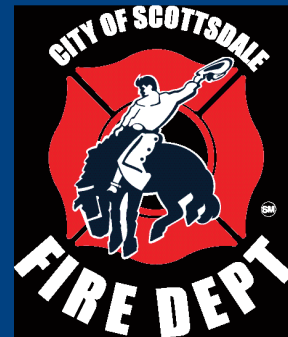
Scottsdale Fire Department responded to 129 mountain rescues in 2018. This included calls to the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve, but also to other hiking trails in the Valley Metro Area as part of Automatic Aid.

The Community Risk Reduction Team has been tasked to review this particular issue to determine what SFD can do to help reduce the number of these calls.

Through partnership with the Preserve and other local stakeholders, the hope is to educate both residents and visitors on how to prepare for their hikes, including reminders to bring and drink plenty of water, carry a charged cell phone, and wear appropriate shoes.

We are also encouraging pet owners to rethink taking their pooches on the trails when the temperatures are expected to hit 90 degrees.





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