

SOUTH DAVIS METRO FIRE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF
- 5 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- 6 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
- 7 OUR MISSION
- 8 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
- 9 FIRE STATIONS
- **10** RESOURCE DEPLOYMENT
- 11 DISTRICT SNAPSHOT
- **15** FINANCE REPORT
- 17 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
- **18** FIRE INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU
- **19** TRAINING DIVISION
- 23 FIRE OPERATIONS
- 24 EMS OPERATIONS
- 25 HAZMAT TEAM
- 26 TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM
- 27 SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS
- 29 PROMOTIONS
- **30** RETIREMENTS & YEARS OF SERVICE
- 31 NEW EMPLOYEES
- 33 CHILI COOK-OFF
- 33 HONOR GUARD
- 34 FIREFIGHTER'S CHALLENGE
- 35 OUT AND ABOUT
- 37 FACES OF METRO FIRE

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



I am pleased to present you with the 2023 Annual Report for the South Davis Metro Fire Service Area.

This report highlights the accomplishments as well as the challenges we faced in 2023. Throughout the report, I hope to impress upon you the professionalism of the men and women of this department and how they serve this community. Along with the elected officials and administrative committee, accomplishments were made, and challenges were overcome. It was a truly collaborative effort.

This year the Department saw a small decrease in our call volume. This was primarily due to two factors: First, a decrease in patient transfers out of Lakeview Hospital; and second, a reduction in wildfires.

The reduction in our calls out of Lakeview Hospital came from a concerted effort to eliminate ambulance transports that were sometimes made out of convenience rather than necessity. This helped the Department maintain greater availability for emergent calls while preventing our customers from getting unnecessary ambulance bills.

We believe the wildfire reduction was the result of two likely reasons. First, our continued proactive stance on fireworks and their effect on the Eastern side of the district, and second, the higher-than-normal fuel moisture content in vegetation due to last year's record snowfall. We look forward to another less-than-normal fire season this year, with continued support from the public when it comes to firework restrictions.

At the beginning of the year, firefighter retention became a significant challenge. A pay plan was developed and approved through the collaborative efforts of the administrative committee and the department staff to address this concern.

I'm very pleased to report this has had a significant positive impact on our retention. The support we received from the public was more than humbling and showed our firefighters how much they are valued. I want to personally express my appreciation to our Financial Director Jessica Hardy, Administrative Committee Chair Duane Huffman, and of course the Board of Trustees. They worked relentlessly on this; it wouldn't have been possible without them.

Finally, we are still feeling the effects of the pandemic regarding supply chain issues and apparatus. Delays have postponed the delivery of a new fire engine for our Headquarters station in Bountiful from last July to the spring of 2024. Our ladder truck was supposed to be here in November of 2023, but we won't see delivery until the end of 2024. Nonetheless, the crews in coordination with the Logistics Division have made great strides to maintain the readiness and dependability of our current equipment as it continues to increase in downtime and maintenance.

I hope you enjoy this year's report. I am very proud to represent this Department and the professional men and women who make South Davis Metro Fire, what I believe is the best department in the State.



"EACH DAY, I AM INSPIRED BY THE BRAVERY AND PROFESSIONALISM OF OUR FIREFIGHTERS WHO WORK TIRELESSLY TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY." -CHIEF DANE STONE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Operating under the jurisdiction of the Utah Service Area Act, the South Davis Metro Fire Service Area operates with a governance structure led by a six-member Board of Trustees, elected from each participating municipality and representing Davis County. The board plays a pivotal role in shaping the direction of our fire service operations. Their responsibilities encompass the formulation of policies, determination of tax rates, authorization of bonds, and approval of the comprehensive budget that guides our financial planning and resource allocation. This governance model ensures that the interests and needs of our community are effectively considered and addressed in the decision-making processes that drive the South Davis Metro Fire Service Area.



Mayor Kendalyn Harris Bountiful



Davis County Commissioner **Bob Stevenson**



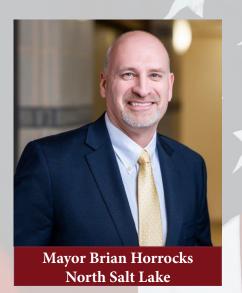
Mayor Clark Wilkinson Centerville

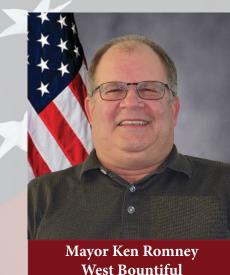


The Administrative Committee is an assembly of city managers representing each participating city and either the county clerk or deputy county clerk from Davis County. They play a crucial role in supporting the Department's financial decisionmaking processes. This committee is instrumental in various aspects, including but not limited to establishing the budget timeline and facilitating its submission to the Board, scrutinizing capital expenditures, assessing the compensation plan for the Department, and providing invaluable advice to the Fire Chief and financial director on a spectrum of financial recommendations presented to the Board. This collaborative effort ensures a well-informed and strategic approach to the financial management of the Department, reinforcing its commitment to fiscal responsibility and effective resource utilization.











Woods Cross





South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 5

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE



West Bountiful



OUR MISSION

South Davis Metro Fire is dedicated to delivering prompt and effective emergency and public services to the communities it serves, encompassing Bountiful, Centerville, North Salt Lake, West Bountiful, Woods Cross, and the unincorporated areas of south Davis County. Situated in the southern part of Davis County, adjacent to Salt Lake City, our five strategically positioned fire stations ensure a swift response to all citizens within our jurisdiction.

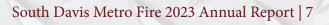
Our fire department is an all-hazards department, and we provide fire response, ambulance transport, paramedic services, hazardous material management, and technical rescue operations. Beyond emergencies, we are committed to fostering community well-being through an array of public services. These encompass fire prevention initiatives, educational outreach, engaging station tours, CERT programs, first aid and CPR classes, business inspections, fire investigations, and various other community-oriented endeavors.

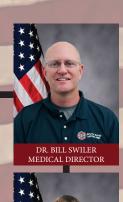
South Davis Metro Fire takes pride in being more than just a fire department; we are an integral part of your community. We go above and beyond crisis management to actively contribute to public safety, awareness, and resilience. Our strategic planning committee developed a new mission statement this year:

OUR MISSION IS TO PRESERVE LIFE, PROTECT PROPERTY, AND **EXCEED THE EXPECTATIONS OF THOSE WE SERVE**



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART BOARD OF TRUSTEES TODD GODFREY, P.C ADMINISTRATIVE ATTORNEY COMMITTEE NIKKI THOMPSON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JESSICA HARDY FINANCE DIRECTOR JEFF LARSEN EMS CHIEF







SPENCER GREGORY BATTALION CHIEF

B SHIFT

B-SHIFT

FIREFIGHTERS

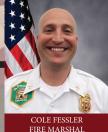
A SHIFT

A-SHIFT

FIREFIGHTERS

JOHN RAY









C-SHIFT FIREFIGHTERS



FIRE STATIONS

Station 81 255 South 100 West, Bountiful Medic Engine 81 Ambulance 81 Battalion 81 Brush 81 Mobile Command Unit

Station 82 701 East Eaglewood Drive, North Salt Lake Medic Engine 82 Ambulance 82 Brush 82

Station 83 Technical Rescue Station 343 South Main Street, Centerville Medic Engine 83 Ambulance 83 Brush 83 Utility 83

Squad 83

Station 84

1995 South Bountiful Boulevard, Bountiful

Engine 84 Brush 84 Ambulance 844 (Bariatric) Utility 84

Station 85 **HAZMAT Station**

836 West 1100 North, North Salt Lake Truck 85 Ambulance 85 HAZMAT 85 HAZMAT Support 85

Metro Fire has five stations which are strategically located throughout southern Davis County to maximize coverage and minimize response times. Stations are staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, by three separate shifts.

67

68 W 500 S

W 1500 S

MEADOW

CROSSING ≥

15

PALI

North

Salt Lake

1800-M

B

St. 85

68

W Center St

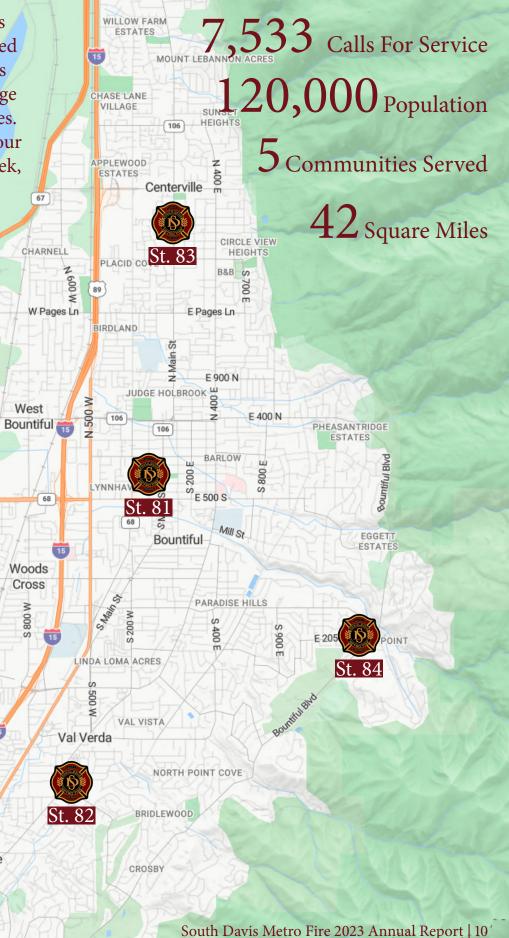
67

67

67

215

N 1100 W

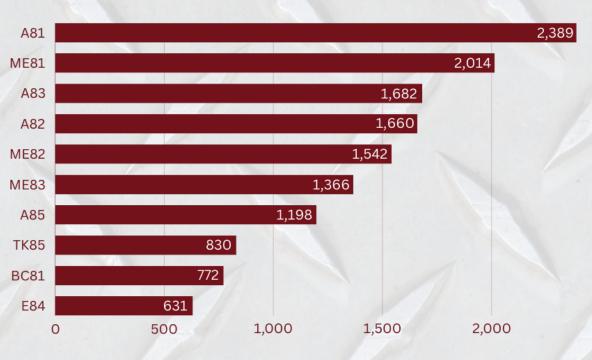


South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 9

1:5

RESOURCE DEPLOYMENT

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT: 2023 CALLS BY UNIT









TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 7, 533



South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 11



PREVENTING FIRES, EMERGENCIES, AND GETTING **INVOLVED:** 149 Public Education Events Hosted/Attended

832 Annual Inspections 103 Re-Inspections

3 CERT Classes 88 CERT Participants 2,464 CERT Training Hours

1,228 CPR Cards Issued

Hosted 3 Open Houses (Over 2,000 Attendees)





2

Administration

Fire Prevention

53



27

ADMIN

3

LANDSTAR



FINANCE REPORT

Jessica Hardy became a valuable member of South Davis Metro Fire in the winter of 2017, contributing her extensive expertise in accounting spanning more than 25 years. Impressively, she has dedicated over 19 years of her career to excelling in financial roles within state and local municipalities.

Jessica holds a Bachelor's degree in Human Resources, is a Certified Governmental Financial Manager (CGFM), and a Masters in Business Administration. Jessica plays a crucial role in enhancing the financial stewardship of South Davis Metro Fire, ensuring the efficient allocation of resources to support the community's safety and well-being.

> This year, Jessica has: Processed 1,356 Accounts Payable Checks (Total of \$10,518,166.06) Processed 2,511 Direct Deposit Vouchers Completed our Annual Audit in 80 Days Processed 13 Employee Terminations Processed 12 New Employee Hires

> > South Davis Metro Fire is a specialized service district dedicated to delivering fire and EMS services to the residents and citizens of Bountiful, Centerville, North Salt Lake, West Bountiful, Woods Cross, and the unincorporated areas of south Davis County.

> > Property taxes, assessed by Davis County, form a crucial funding stream for the district. These taxes are then allocated to the district to support its operations. Additionally, participating cities contribute a percentage of the overall assessed property values, further bolstering the financial resources of the district.

> > A significant portion of the district's revenue is derived from fees associated with emergency medical services treatment and transport. This diverse funding approach ensures the sustainability and effectiveness of South Davis Metro Fire in fulfilling its vital public safety mission.

Our most substantial financial commitment lies in salaries, accounting for a significant portion-almost 78%—of the operating budget. South Davis Metro Fire prioritizes the provision of competitive salaries and comprehensive benefits, aiming to attract and retain top-tier professionals within the industry.

In addition to workforce support, transfers play a pivotal role in the fiscal strategy. These transfers involve allocations from the operating budget to the capital facilities budget, earmarked for crucial expenditures related to apparatus, large equipment, and other expenses outlined in the capital facilities plan. This strategic allocation ensures not only the well-being of the workforce but also the sustainment and maintenance of essential infrastructure, reinforcing South Davis Metro Fire's commitment to optimal emergency response capabilities.

South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 15

\$18.52

MILLION

OPERATING BUDGET

\$18.35

MILLION

EXPENDITURES

40.1% **PROPERTY TAXES:** \$8,018,960 **CITY ASSESSMENTS:** \$7,421,747 AMBULANCE REVENUE: \$2,974,291 **DONATIONS & OTHER SOURCES:** \$109,100

TOTAL: \$18,524,098

1.2%

9.6%

11.1%



2023 REVENUES

43.3%

2023 EXPENDITURES

SALARIES & BENEFITS: \$14,247,695 **OPERATIONS:** \$2,028,554 **TRANSFERS:** \$1,768,100 EMS: \$229,130 **TRAINING:** \$54,475 FIRE PREVENTION: \$27,362

TOTAL: \$18,355,316

77.6%

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

In 2023, the Fire Prevention Division demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public safety by organizing 149 public education events and completing 832 inspections. 690 of those inspections were done by Fire Prevention and another 142 were completed by fire crews. Notably, 103 re-inspections were conducted to ensure compliance. We also hosted three CERT classes, processed 1,228 CPR cards, conducted extinguisher classes, and enhanced our community preparedness. Additionally, we hosted three successful open houses, which were attended by over 2,000 individuals. This is just another highlight for our dedication to fostering community engagement and partnerships.





Tours are scheduled year-round! We do these at the fire station, local church, school, and neighborhood gatherings. We teach our community fire prevention and basic EMS skills at these events.



Every October, Metro Fire participates in the annual Davis County Citizens Police Academy. The goal is to provide the citizens a better understanding of who we are, and what we do through physical activities.



SDMF partners with local community CERT programs to help facilitate several classes a year. CERT training covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not available. With training, practice, and working as a team, they are able to protect themselves and maximize their capability to help the greatest number of people after a disaster.

One of the basic skills CERT classes learn is CPR. Additionally, CPR classes are taught on a monthly basis to schools, businesses, citizens, and other health care professionals.



Every September we open our station doors to the public for fire prevention week! Three of our five fire stations host an event for the community to come learn about fire safety.









FIRE INVESTIGATIONS **BUREAU** In 2023, the Investigations Division remained vigilant in its pursuit of investigating

fire incidents. Here's a summary of our division's activities this year:

Our team initiated and completed 17 thorough fire investigations, shedding light on the causes and circumstances surrounding each incident.

With an estimated 314-man hours dedicated to investigations, our team demonstrated remarkable diligence and expertise in carrying out their duties. An overview of their responsibilities includes scene examination, evidence collection, interviews, interrogations, documentation, forensic analysis, participating in legal proceedings, and continuing education.

Comprising nine skilled professionals, our team tackled challenges head-on, leveraging collective expertise to ensure thorough investigations. These professionals combine scientific expertise, forensic analysis, and investigative skills to meticulously examine all fire scenes to document and gather evidence.

Despite facing one tragic fire-related death and witnessing a total loss of \$11,126,400 in all fires within Metro, our team's relentless pursuit of truth and cause remained unwavering.

As we reflect on the events of 2023, we express our gratitude to our community for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we remain committed to fostering a safer, more resilient future for all.

INVESTIGATIONS PERSONNEL







Top Row: Fire Marshal Cole Fessler, Captain Mike Shafto, Captain Jordan Hummel, Captain Carson Niederhauser, Captain Adam Hunt Bottom Row: Captain Jon Ray, FF/Paramedic Jeremy Krage, FF/AEMT Tim Roberts, FF/Paramedic Keith Seils

Fire Investigations

Total Personnel Hours

Team Composition

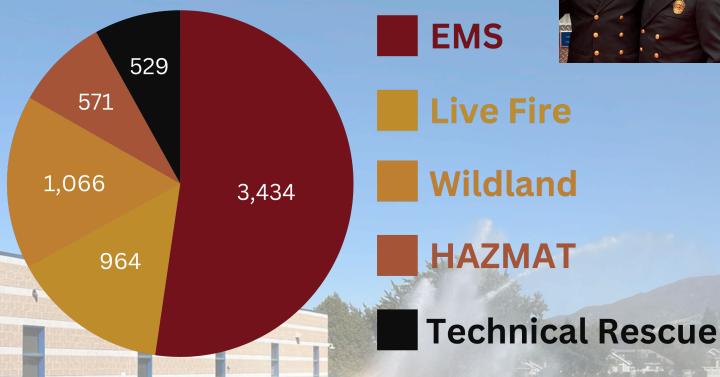
Significant Accomplishments





TRAINING DIVISION

TOTAL TRAINING HOURS:



The motto of the Training Division is to develop the best firefighters through impactful training. This year has seen a shift from high-volume online and computer-based trainings to more hands-on and in-person trainings. This shift, though time- and labor-intensive, has proven extremely beneficial in developing our firefighters' skills and knowledge, with well over 12,000 hours logged. We have provided most of our firefighters with multiple 'live fire' training opportunities, nearing a total of 1,000 hours logged. This has been crucial in developing and maintaining high-performance levels among our crews.

In addition to training our current force, we oversaw 2 recruit firefighter academies in conjunction with Salt Lake City Fire, and successfully graduated 11 new probationary firefighters. As part of this process, we developed a new 1-month long "pre-recruit" camp onboarding program that has positively improved engagement of recruits with our department, as well as prepare them for the rigors of the Academy and give them the tools to successfully complete it. Quality training is a critical piece of a high-performing fire department. We are grateful for our administration's support and will continue striving to fulfill their initiative of developing our firefighters into some of the best in the field.

























OPERATIONS



FIRE OPERATIONS

South Davis Metro Fire is a dynamic organization, committed to adaptability and resilience in meeting the evolving needs of our community. In Operations, we pursue innovative and strategic solutions to address challenges, including staffing issues related to recruitment and retention, as well as ongoing technological advancements.

Nationwide, public safety faces difficulties in attracting and retaining skilled personnel. In response to feedback and concerns, we implemented significant changes mid-year 2023. This included a wage increase and operational shift, resulting in Advanced EMT and Paramedic staffing on each of our four transport ambulances, alongside the existing three Paramedic (ALS) engines. The goals were to maintain high-quality ALS service and provide opportunities for firefighter rotation onto fire attack apparatus. This was not a popular decision. Despite this resistance, the change led to increased efficiency with single paramedic responses and enhanced quick responses to a district area impacted by frequent rail traffic delays.

In addition to personnel challenges, we remain vigilant in adopting emerging technologies. The rise in lithiumion battery fires has prompted us to continually update our knowledge and protocols. While we haven't encountered large-scale incidents with electric vehicle (EV) fires, smaller incidents involving lithium-ion battery fires have presented challenges due to their difficulty to extinguish.

Another operational challenge arose from the virtual consolidation of dispatch centers and software changes affecting emergency response. Our staff responded with commendable professionalism and effectiveness, adapting swiftly to the modified procedures. As a department, we are committed to ongoing evaluation and adjustments to ensure optimal response models.

Despite these challenges, South Davis Metro Fire remains dedicated to maintaining a high level of service, professional development, and adaptability in the face of evolving demands and technologies.











EMS OPERATIONS

In 2023, South Davis Metro Fire responded to a variety of medical incidents, addressing challenges like staffing shortages, supply issues, and equipment availability. Despite these hurdles, the EMS Division demonstrated resilience, adaptability, and resourcefulness. **METRO FIRF**

Effective fiscal management and grant cooperation enabled the acquisition of two backcountry E-Bikes for our foothill and mountain trail systems. As these trails and their user population expand, these E-Bikes enhance our crews' ability to respond to various emergencies. Additionally, an extra mechanical ventilator was procured, facilitating patient transport from high acuity Long Term Acute Care (LTAC) facilities and Lakeview Hospital in cases requiring elevated care.

Despite an overall decrease in patient transports, the EMS division attributes this to successful collaboration with Lakeview Hospital. This approach minimizes disruptions, enabling patients to focus on treatment and recovery with the support of their families.

We experienced a significant trauma involving a young female patient. Subsequently, the patient's family and the responding crew had the opportunity for a formal meeting, during which the family expressed their gratitude. Additionally, we celebrated the graduation of two paramedics from WSU's Paramedic program in 2023.





HAZMA

In 2023, South Davis Metro Fire's HAZMAT program saw significant improvements:

Upgrade of our "Level-A Suits"

Acquiring cutting-edge Level A suits from Kappler, the program replaced outdated ones through a grant secured in collaboration with the Northern HAZMAT Team. These suits meet industry standards and provide essential flash protection for our HAZMAT members, reinforcing our commitment to safety.

Air-Monitoring Advancements

Upgrading Sense-it air monitors to industry standards and aligning with the updated CO policy, the HAZMAT program introduced two advanced monitors. These not only detect CO more accurately but also serve as invaluable tools for various hazardous situations, enhancing the team's efficiency on calls.

Streamlined Maintenance

Under Firefighter Monroe and Captain Dallas Andreen's management, the HAZMAT team implemented a streamlined air monitoring maintenance program. Regular calibration ensures all monitors and radiological meters remain mission-ready, contributing to the program's effectiveness and reliability in responding to HAZMAT incidents.

Additional HAZMAT Technicians

This year, the department initiated a practice of sending firefighters to the HAZMAT Technician course in Anniston, AL. This intensive week-long program imparts essential skills for HAZMAT Technicians. With dedicated training props and resources, this program ensures firefighters are well-prepared for the course. Upon completion, continued internal testing and training persist, ensuring our technicians maintain competence as integral members of the HAZMAT team.





Our instructors delved into a comprehensive Rope Rescue class, specializing in mountain rescue, tower rescue, elevator shaft rescue, and high angle rescue. The training covered various techniques that are crucial for these scenarios.

We were invited by the Holly Sinclair refinery, South Davis TRT participated in a class focused on confined space rescue, held in the USS Lexington-which is a WWII aircraft carrier. The training provided valuable insights and enhanced our expertise in navigating confined spaces.

Furthermore, members of the South Davis TRT engaged in a structure collapse training with the Northern Region USAR team. This intensive training included shoring-up collapsing walls, ceilings, and buildings, as well as locating and rescuing victims trapped in debris. The team learned to calculate heavy loads and the methods employed for safe lifting.

Additionally enhancing our capabilities, the TRT acquired a pair of Hydra-fusion struts capable of lifting 20 tons each. These advanced struts enable our team to lift heavy equipment such as semi-trucks, trailers, and excavators, expanding our capabilities for effective rescue operations.









TECHNICAL RESCUE

This year, the South Davis Metro Fire technical rescue team significantly enhanced their skills by attending two training classes:

Ropes that Rescue

Confined Space Rescue





PROMOTIONS



BATTALION CHIEF TOPHER MAXWELL

> CAPTAIN **RAY DANIELS**





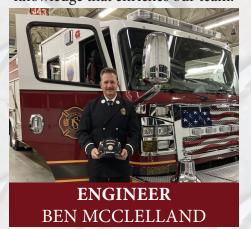
PARAMEDIC JASON OCTAVE



The promotional process for Metro Fire involves a comprehensive assessment to identify and promote qualified individuals within the organization. The process begins with written exams, evaluating candidates' theoretical knowledge and understanding of relevant concepts. Following this, there is a focus on employee conflict and coaching, assessing interpersonal skills and the ability to navigate team dynamics. Hands-on skills demonstrations play a crucial role,

allowing candidates to showcase their practical proficiency in firefighting/EMS tasks. Finally, an interview process is conducted to delve deeper into the candidates' experiences, leadership qualities,

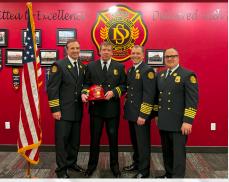
and commitment to the responsibilities associated with their higher rank. This multifaceted approach ensures that individuals selected for promotion possess a well-rounded skill set and are wellequipped to take on the challenges of elevated roles within Metro Fire. The promoted individuals in our department bring a remarkable 100 years of combined experience. This milestone is a testament to their unwavering commitment and substantial contributions, culminating in a century of knowledge that enriches our team.





SPENCER GREGORY

CAPTAIN SHAUN HALE



CAPTAIN CARSON NIEDERHAUSER



PARAMEDIC



RETIRED CAPTAIN CHAD WILLEY **35 YEARS OF SERVICE**

YEARS OF SERVICE

5 YEARS

FF/AEMT SCOTT BREDTHAUER FF/AEMT JOSHUA BRIMHALL FF/PM MATT COOPER FF/PM MIKE HAWKINS FF/PM ALEX LUCERO ENGINEER BEN MCCLELLAND FF/PM JASON OCTAVE **ENGINEER RYAN RHOADES** FF/PM TIMOTHY ROHMANN FF/PM KEITH SEILS SECRETARY NIKKI THOMPSON

South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 29

RETIREMENTS

RETIRED CAPTAIN STEVE DUFFIELD 22 YEARS OF SERVICE







10 YEARS

FF/PM JEREMY KRAGE FF/AEMT CHRIS MONROE **ENGINEER BRAY PHILLIPS ENGINEER WADE RIGBY 15 YEARS**

CAPTAIN JONATHAN RAY

20 YEARS

TRAINING CHIEF JOSH HARDY BATTALION CHIEF TOPHER MAXWELL **CAPTAIN RILEY SAYRE**

25 YEARS

ENGINEER MIKE GARRICK

30 YEARS

FIRE CHIEF DANE STONE

NEW EMPLOYEES

Each year, South Davis Metro Fire invests in the professional development of its new recruits by enrolling them in Salt Lake City's rigorous 15-week fire academy. This comprehensive program assesses individuals across academic, physical, and mental dimensions through a battery of tests. Uniquely crafted, the academy is structured to transform individuals with no prior firefighting experience into certified professionals holding credentials of Firefighter I, Firefighter II, HAZMAT Operations, and HAZMAT Awareness—all achieved in an accelerated timeframe of less than four months. Alongside new employee development, we send a Captain to be a part of the instructor cadre for these classes, which allows us to further develop these already highly skilled individuals.

The commitment to excellence in training is evident in the successful graduation of two classes of recruits this year, contributing a total of eleven thoroughly vetted and skilled new employees to South Davis Metro Fire. This strategic investment not only ensures the proficiency of our regions' firefighters, but also aligns with the agency's dedication to maintaining the reputation of having the best firefighters.

CLASS 51 FF/AEMT DAVID BRAGHIN

FF/AEMT DAVID BRAGHIN FF/AEMT IAN DUNCAN FF/PM BRANDON FINSTAD FF/AEMT MARCUS LINDMEIR FF/AEMT TANNER LLOYD FF/AEMT BROOKE SAVAGE FF/AEMT CAMERON WILKO



South Davis Metro Fire 2023 Annual Report | 31

CLASS 52

FF/AEMT JEFF BARNETT FF/AEMT CHRIS LOVELL FF/AEMT KONNER MARSHALL FF/AEMT IAN NADEL











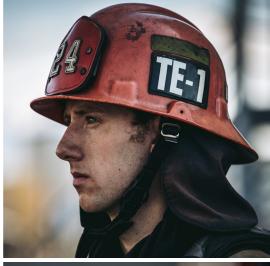














CHILI COOK-OFF & BURN CAMP

Every year, Metro Fire competes in the Utah Firefighter Chili Cook-off. This event raises money for the University of Utah Burn Camp, which is an event that helps support burn survivors with personal challenges associated with surviving burn injuries. Members from our department take time out of their schedules set-up their booth, cook their chili, and try to earn a trophy.



HONOR GUARI

South Davis Metro Fire has a committed group of individuals that serve in the Honor Guard representing our fire department. They attend a variety of events for a battery of purposes. Some of those events can be funerals for fallen firefighters, flag ceremonies at specific events, and national memorials.





The SERVPRO Firefighter Challenge is an annual competition that allows for firefighters to compete in a series of athletic challenges to win, all while benefiting the Make-A-Wish foundation. This challenge includes a set of obstacles specifically made for firefighters. During this event, firefighters from all over Utah displayed true bravery and teamwork in the challenge. Firefighters wear their full protective gear, use their tools, and compete to be the quickest and most thorough firefighters in Utah. The training they undergo for this competition strengthens members so they perform on and off the job at their highest level of fitness, wellness, and safety. South Davis Metro Fire has a dedicated team of individuals that compete, train, and recruit new members for the annual competition.

FIREFIGHTER'S CHALLENGE











ERMON

QUACKIN JOKES..

























