



# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message From the Chief .....	3	Hazardous Materials Response .....	50	Pharmacy .....	72
Albuquerque Fire Rescue: Executive Staff .....	6	Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting .....	52	Quality Assurance Officer .....	73
AFR Organizational Chart .....	7	Heavy Technical Rescue .....	54	Home Engagement Alternative Response Team (HEART) .....	74
Mission Statement, Vision, Values .....	8	Community Risk Reduction .....	56	ECMO Program .....	75
2019 Accomplishments .....	9	Public Affairs Office.....	59	AFR Training Academy .....	77
Apparatus, and Equipment .....	14	Safety Division .....	60	Dispatch Center .....	86
Emergency Response .....	19	Fiscal Management Program .....	61	Technical Services .....	88
Battalion Chiefs .....	21	AFR FY20 Budget .....	62	Records Management System .....	90
Fire Station Information .....	22	Partnership With Elected Officials .....	65	Fire Marshal's Office .....	91
Regional Response Partners .....	44	Fleet Maintenance .....	67	Fire Investigations .....	95
IAFF Local 244 .....	45	Logistics .....	68	Special Recognition: Philip Hall .....	97
Retirees' Association .....	47	Facility Maintenance .....	69	2019 Retirements, Promotions, Awards ...	98
Field Operations Center .....	48	Air Management .....	70	Credits and Acknowledgements .....	99
Special Operations .....	49	Emergency Medical Services Division .....	71		



# A MESSAGE **FROM FIRE CHIEF PAUL W. DOW**

The call volume for Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) has steadily increased over the past few years, which affects the efficiency of our response to the public. However, 2019 was the first time in a decade where our annual call volume dropped from the previous year. This decrease in call volume is a result of several new programs we developed and implemented over the last two years. From our proactive outreach HEART program to our unique partnerships with other city departments, we are improving our response. Collaborating with City Security and establishing Wellness Checks to address the public intoxication issue in our community has proven successful.

Along with decreasing our call volume, we have made significant improvements within our Fleet Division. In 2019, we increased our response capabilities with the addition of new apparatus, including a Rapid Extraction Module (REM) Team for Wildland deployments, a new Brush Truck (Brush 22) on the NW edge of the city and two BLS Rescues in the southeast heights. We also purchased millions of dollars' worth of apparatus to replace our aging frontline fleet. Toward the end of the year, we also started construction of our new Fleet Facility on the west side. This facility replaces the 60-year-old Fleet Building, is three times larger, and will meet our current and future demands to maintain our fleet of over 200 vehicles.

This department is growing. We are increasing our staffing levels and implementing new programs to address the needs of the community. Since the start of 2019, our department staffing levels have increased by 36 new positions, including 25 additional firefighters and 11 civilians. We now have a total of 729 uniform firefighters and 37 civilians. The additional personnel will staff a new fall prevention program, a formal Public Affairs Office, the new ADAPT Division, and increase the members within the Fire Marshal's Office. We also more than doubled the number of mechanics in the Fleet Division and added several other critical civilian support positions to the department.

Our primary emphasis continues to be the health and safety of our firefighters. They are the most critical element of this department. In 2019 we started installing washers and dryers in each fire station so our firefighters can clean the carcinogens from the uniforms during and after their shift. We also implemented a more thorough annual physical examination process, which increased the types and number of tests our firefighters receive during the evaluation. This change was valuable in detecting the early stages of cancer in several of our firefighters in 2019. Prevention and early detection of cancer is a priority in this department.

Training is essential in the fire service. From the moment our firefighters start their careers as cadets, they are immersed in a culture that demands we perform at the highest level possible. This is why our training programs are so demanding – we hold ourselves to a higher standard. In 2019 we graduated 50 new firefighters from the 93rd and 94th Cadet Classes. During the summer and fall, the Academy staff also instructed a physically demanding suppression refresher training module to each member of the department. To improve the consistency and efficiency of our incident commanders in the field, each Battalion Chief completed the Blue Card Incident Command Certification training. We also sent several members of the department to out-of-state conferences and training courses to sharpen their skills, learn new techniques, develop new training evolutions, and share them with others.

Throughout 2019 we strived to improve our service to this community. Nothing embodies our dedication and commitment to saving lives more than the development and implementation of the new ECMO Program. This collaborative effort between UNMH and AFR brings a surgical suite to patients in cardiac arrest and can dramatically improve their chance of a successful outcome. We are the first fire department in the United States of America to implement, such as a bold program, and it is a testament to the professionalism of our organization. We are firefighters...we never stop.



**FIRE CHIEF** PAUL W. DOW



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN 2019

### FUNDRAISING

This year our firefighters purchased t-shirts to wear while on duty and raise money for two worthy campaigns. IAFF Local 244 and AFR presented a check for:

- \$7500.00 to UNMH Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Program from Childhood Cancer Awareness t-shirt sales.
- \$3,865 to the American Cancer Society, Real Men Wear Pink campaign.

### DONATIONS

- Arson Captain Ramon Martinez helps launch the Socktober campaign to collect 7,000 new socks for donation to Locker 505. These socks will be given to students in need of clothing.
- AFR members took turns feeding people at the Westside Emergency Housing Shelter during weekends. The meals were prepared in the firehouse or at the Fire Academy and then delivered to the shelter on Saturday nights.

### HEROES HALLOWEEN EVENT

What began as a small haunted house at Fire Station 5 evolved into a multi-agency, City of Albuquerque event hosted by the Albuquerque Fire Rescue Training Academy. Months of planning and over 20 sponsors with hundreds of volunteers went into this year's Halloween event. At its core, Heroes Halloween was intended to give back to the community and emphasize the One Albuquerque initiative. This was a free event open to the public. Visitors were encouraged to bring canned goods that will benefit Family and Community Services to help feed families in need for Thanksgiving.

AFR Captain William McMullen and Battalion Chief Santos Garcia spearheaded this year's event after a very successful haunted fire station, "The Otherrealm", in 2018. That event resulted in so many positive experiences and memories for the community that Capt. McMullen and BC Garcia realized this should be an annual event.

Heroes Halloween offered something for all ages, including the six-story haunted house, "Nightmare on Nine Mile Hill." Each level provided unique and thrilling scenes where small groups of visitors were led through by firefighters as an interactive tour. The drill field hosted a car show with local vehicles and first responder cars and trucks and a rock-climbing wall. Food trucks were offering a variety of delicious treats like turkey legs, gourmet hot dogs, BBQ, and deserts. A live car fire demonstration occurred every hour, and the AFR fire safety house was on display, offering interactive learning for children. Inside the main building, visitors could find a large carnival game room where each of the 22 AFR fire stations built unique games for kids to enjoy. Captain Andrew West created animal balloons at a separate booth during the entire event. Another large room hosted a puppet show and storytelling.

Visitors could use the free park and ride shuttles offered by the City of Albuquerque Transit department. Families were able to get a free Halloween costume at the on-site Spirit store free of charge. Ink Theory also had a booth set up screen printing original Heroes Halloween designs and offered a percentage of proceeds to charity.

Heroes Halloween was a huge success thanks to all involved. The talent, pride, and commitment of the Heroes Halloween team were shown in every detail and every smile throughout the night.



### **NEW! INFLATABLE FIRE SAFETY HOUSE**

AFR purchased an inflatable Fire Safety House that uses interactive features to teach fire safety to children. We deployed the Fire Safety House at various events around the city, including the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

### **NEW! YFAP**

The YFAP or Youth Fire Awareness Program is an old program that is coming back to life within our department. The YFAP is a program that will be used throughout the Albuquerque Metro area to include Bernalillo County and Rio Rancho Fire/Rescue Departments. The program is intended to deal with youth between 3 and 17 years old, and it will be addressing children that range from the “curious kid” to the extreme fire setter. Our goal is to help educate all participants that come through our program. We want to become the conduit that connects these youth with the additional resources that they need to become positive contributing members of our community.

### **NEW! RIVER MILE MARKERS**

AFR along with the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division have installed River Mile Marker signs along the river on the water’s edge. These signs are located on both sides of the river and provide location identifiers from Alameda Blvd bridge to the Isleta Reservation. During an emergency citizens can reference these signs to provide their location to responding public safety agencies. These signs correspond with the United States Coast Guard river miles that are identified in the All Hazards Bosque Run Book.

### **GUARDIAN GAMES**

In November, AFR participated in the Guardian Games to support the Special Olympics. Team Fire even brought home the first place trophy while supporting a good cause.

### **TWINKLE LIGHT PARADE**

Albuquerque Fire Rescue participated in the 2019 Twinkle Light Parade and won first place in the Government category. This is an annual tradition for AFR that gives us an opportunity to help bring smiles to our community and our members are proud to be a part of.



# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE EXECUTIVE STAFF



## FIRE CHIEF PAUL DOW

*The mission of the Albuquerque Fire Rescue is to serve the community by providing all hazards planning, prevention, and response that promotes public safety and trust, while ensuring the safety and well-being of its firefighters.*

*Under the direction of the Fire Chief, the Department fulfills its mission through the coordinated effort of six Divisions, each managed by a Deputy Chief who oversees subordinate Programs. The six Divisions are Human Resources, Planning and Logistics, Emergency Services, Training and Communication, Field Operations and Fire Marshal's Office.*



**SEAN ELKS**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
FIELD OPERATIONS



**GENE GALLEGOS**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE  
FIRE MARSHAL'S  
OFFICE AND  
FIRE MARSHAL



**SEAN FRAZIER**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
HUMAN RESOURCES



**ADAM EAKES**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
PLANNING AND  
LOGISTICS



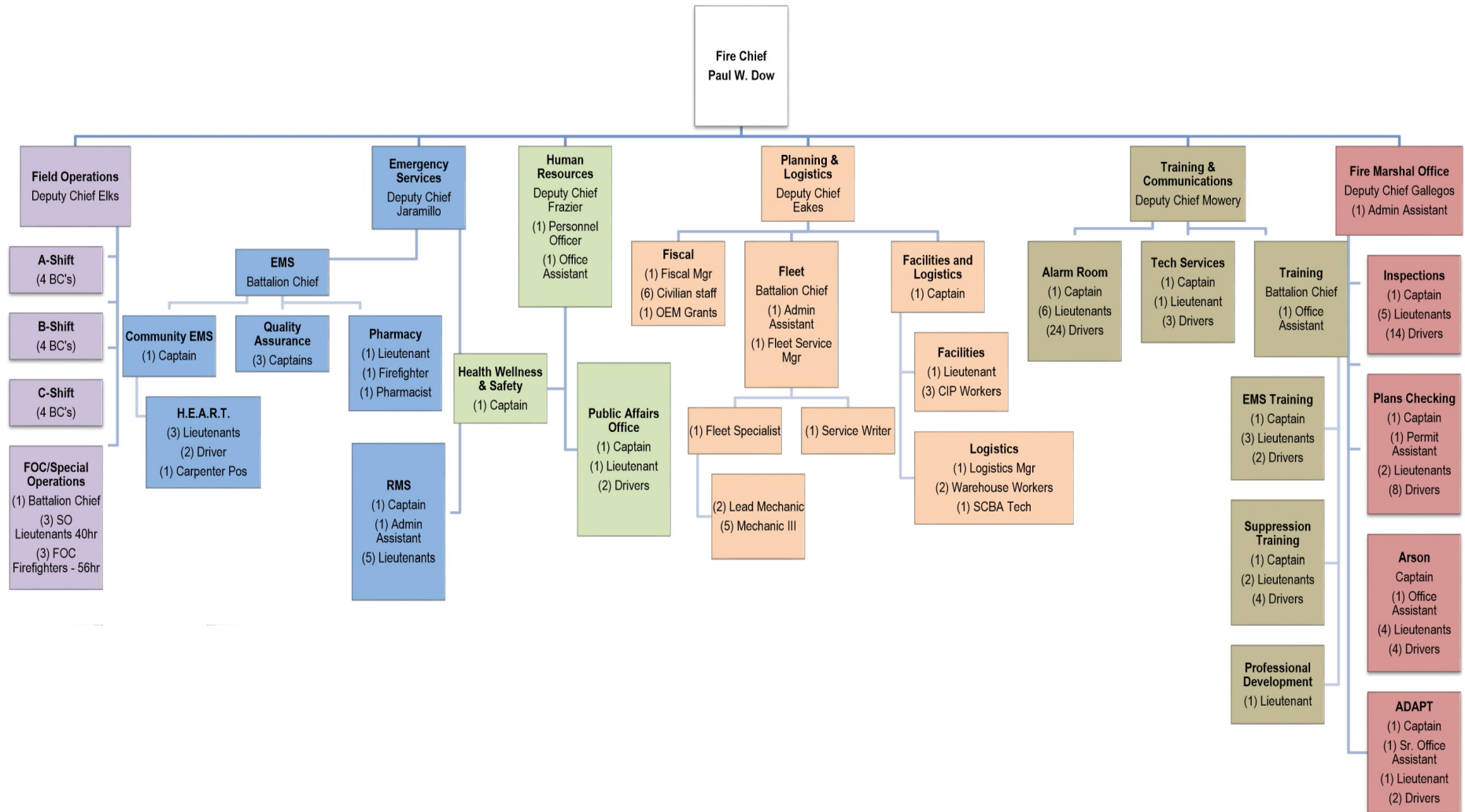
**EMILY JARAMILLO**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
EMERGENCY  
SERVICES



**DAVID MOWERY**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
TRAINING AND  
COMMUNICATION

*The Albuquerque Fire Rescue Executive staff operates from an administrative building located within the Fire Training Academy on the Westside of the City with the exception of the Fire Marshal's Office which is located in downtown Albuquerque.*

# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



WHO WE ARE

# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE

*Albuquerque Fire Rescue has 22 stations that cover 189.5 square miles of the metro area and provide mutual aid response with multiple agencies that border the Albuquerque metro area. Our department provides an all hazards response including high angle and foothill rescues, wildland fires, medical calls, and water rescue.*



## OUR MISSION AND VISION

THE PURPOSE OF THE ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE IS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING ALL HAZARDS PLANNING, PREVENTION AND RESPONSE THAT PROMOTES PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRUST WHILE ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF ITS FIREFIGHTERS.

AFR IS DEDICATED TO CONTINUOUSLY PROVIDING QUALITY RISK REDUCTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY.

## OUR VALUES

PROFESSIONALISM  
LEADERSHIP  
INTEGRITY  
FAIRNESS  
RESPECT  
TRUST

**SWORN TO  
PROTECT OUR  
COMMUNITY**



# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## REDUCTION IN CALL VOLUME

For the last decade, Albuquerque Fire Rescue has seen the annual call volume increase each year over the previous year. However, through innovative programs, as identified below, targeting multiple aspects of how 911 services are utilized, AFR has seen a decrease in call volume. In 2018 AFR responded to 109,756 calls, and in 2019 we responded to 105,526 emergency incidents. One of the most important outcomes of these changes is the increased availability of resources for other emergencies. While we still have work to do, this drop in annual call volume is a step in the right direction. As we respond more efficiently, our response times and overall patient outcomes will continue to improve. The following are some of the innovative ways we have reduced the total call volume for AFR:

## LIFESAVER TRAINING

Albuquerque Fire Rescue developed a short two-hour CRR session called Lifesaver training that teaches civilians simple life-saving interventions for conditions that cause death within minutes. These skills include hands-only CPR, Automated External Defibrillation (AED) use, hemorrhage control, and naloxone administration. This hands-on format allows everyone to learn these techniques, and by the end of the class, they can perform them confidently. Many of our community members reported feeling empowered by their new skill set. In August of 2019, Mayor Keller and CAO Nair made the Lifesaver course mandatory for all City of Albuquerque employees by the end of 2020.



## ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMS FOR ALL FIREFIGHTERS

NFPA provides guidelines regarding medical programs for fire departments and recommends annual physicals for the prevention of disease. The standard's purpose is to reduce the risk of fire service occupational morbidity and mortality while improving firefighters' safety and efficiency. Starting in January of 2019, the department requires each member to complete an annual medical exam rather than every other year. These annual physicals are compliant with NFPA 1582.

## HOME ENGAGEMENT AND ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE TEAM (HEART)

The Home Engagement and Alternative Response Team (HEART) has 6 AFR Paramedics and one Captain. The initial focus of the HEART team was to identify individuals calling 911 frequently, and work with them to decrease their reliance on 911. Since the full implementation of HEART in September 2018, the HEART community paramedics have worked with around 100 individuals relying on 911 for their social and medical needs (sometimes daily). Most of these individuals are calling 911 because primary care physicians are not addressing their social and medical needs, and the patient is having difficulty navigating the system alone. Often these patients also have substance abuse addiction or behavioral health concerns. When a patient is referred by AFR personnel to HEART, the HEART paramedic makes a home visit to offer enrollment. Once a patient is enrolled, the HEART paramedic acts as a patient advocate, a healthcare navigator, and assists connecting the patient with the resources that they need to decrease their reliance on 911 for these needs. These needs range from primary care, help to acquire insurance, connection to social services, and more. After working with HEART, several of the patients are no longer relying on 911 for their needs.

## CITY SECURITY

To decrease the number of front-line units responding to "person down" calls, AFR partnered with City Security. During the afternoon and evening hours, when a citizen calls 911 for a person down, AFR dispatches a City Security unit to the scene first. All-City Security officers are trained in Narcan administration, AED/CPR, and can apply tourniquets. Often, a call for a person down is someone sleeping in public, and City Security can arrive on the scene and address the non-medical concerns. If City Security arrives and finds an individual that is too intoxicated to wake up and walk away, they call on an AFR resource to assess the individual and transport if necessary. This Wellness Check Program was initiated at the end of 2019 but has already proved successful. AFR and City Security will continue to track data to determine ways to reduce resource redundancy on "person down" calls.

# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## **FOCUS ON RESOURCE ALLOCATION**

In 2019, AFR made changes to the types of units that responded to specific emergencies. Before this change, if an in-district Paramedic Rescue was on a call and another call came out in their district, AFR would always send the in-district Basic Life Support Engine with an out-of-district Paramedic Rescue. This action was occurring for not only the high acuity calls needing paramedics but often lower acuity calls that did not necessarily need a paramedic. AFR worked with our medical director to identify types of 911 calls that had meager rates of medical interventions. On these calls, we stopped dispatching the out of district Paramedic Rescue, only sending a response from the BLS Engine. AFR projected that this change would decrease thousands of calls annually for the Paramedic Rescues, keeping them in their district and responding to higher acuity calls. This change is part of the reason that two of the busiest Rescues in the Southeast, Rescue 5, and Rescue 11 have seen a reduction in call volume in 2019. Rescue 5 dropped 192 calls, and Rescue 11 dropped 679 calls from 2018 to 2019. In the summer of 2019, we also added our two Hazardous Materials Squads to the EMS run strings. These two Squads typically had very few responses compared to other apparatus in their fire stations. Therefore, we took a few low acuity calls from the Engines and gave them to the Squads. This change alleviated the burden on the Engines and balanced the call volume in the district more equitably.

## **FALL PREVENTION**

In the fall of 2019, AFR started a fall prevention program in HEART. 911 calls for falls continue to be one of AFR's top 5 medical calls we respond to, and AFR determined that there is a need in the community for a more preventative program for individuals that fall. HEART has two components to this program. The first includes identifying individuals that are falling (often Senior Citizens). An AFR Community Paramedic makes contact with these individuals to assess their needs. If the individual needs minor home modifications, the HEART Carpenter can return to the home to install grab bars or other items to make the home safer and prevent future falls. The second component of this program will start in 2020, which is a fall prevention initiative that will include training at senior facilities for staff and residents to learn how to prevent falls and how individuals can safely assist someone who has fallen and is uninjured to get back up. This program is another new initiative at AFR, and more data will be available later in the year to show its success.

## **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR)**

CRR has always been an essential part of Albuquerque Fire Rescue. For years AFR has implemented education programs aimed at providing fire and injury prevention to the community. Many of these services focus on making the public more resilient if they are involved in some emergency. Unfortunately, these programs were never tracked efficiently, and it was challenging to determine their success and balance the needs throughout the entire community. We were unable to determine which areas of the City were underserved with our CRR programs. However, in 2019, AFR began tracking this program using the Arc GIS app to ensure that citizens across the City are all impacted by the CRR outreach done by Albuquerque firefighters. These programs include AFR's Lifesaver training, Risk Assessments to make buildings safer from an active shooter risk, fire prevention, youth firesetter programs, fire station tours, and many other programs and training for the community.

## **PODCASTS**

We have started a Podcast series for our firefighters to listen to while engaging in other activities. These Podcasts are recorded at the City of Albuquerque's Public Safety University and involve fire suppression and EMS related topics. We have several recorded and have uploaded them to our Albuquerque Fire Rescue YouTube channel and Spotify. They should also be available on iTunes soon.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

AFR relocated several positions under the Deputy Chief of Human Resources to create a Public Affairs Office (PAO) which will incorporate the Public Information Office, recruitment and Community Risk Reduction.



# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## ENFORCED THE ALARM ORDINANCE

On January 1, 2019, AFR started enforcing the existing City of Albuquerque Alarm Ordinance, just as APD has for the past decade. The purpose of the Alarm Ordinance is to establish criteria governing the installation, use, and maintenance of alarm systems within the City of Albuquerque to reduce or eliminate the false alarms that consume public safety resources. Each year AFR responds to thousands of false business alarms without hesitation. Each response has a cost value to it, including workforce, fuel, wear and tear on the apparatus, and, most importantly, the inability for the units to respond to an actual emergency. In 2017, AFR spent an estimated \$247,892.46 responding to over 2,181 false alarms, not including the wear and tear on our fleet. Although most false alarms are not malicious, many can be avoided with proper maintenance, education, and annual inspections. By enforcing the current ordinance, AFR can collect fees, impose fines for excessive false alarms, and ensure businesses properly maintain their systems regularly, which will help decrease the number of false alarms. With the continuous increase in AFR's call volume, each false alarm response diverts our limited resources from other potentially critical emergencies.

## WORK STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE:

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International's (CFAI) has identified 3,850 annual calls for a single fire apparatus as the 110% threshold value. According to the CFAI, exceeding the threshold value indicates an immediate need for new resources to assist with the high call volume within the apparatus response area. The more calls a fire apparatus responds to, the less often they are available for other requests in their district. Therefore apparatus from surrounding districts must respond – this increases the response time to emergencies. In 2019, AFR had ten apparatus above the 110% threshold value, with E5 being the busiest truck at 5,532 calls. Trucks in many areas of the city are still running over 3,850 calls for service. AFR is committed to continuing to work on developing programs and efficiencies in response to address resource allocation.

## WASHERS AND DRYERS IN THE FIRE STATIONS

Many times our firefighters' t-shirts and pants are also contaminated after responding to a structure fire. We do not want these firefighters to bring the contaminated clothing home to their families. Therefore, we have developed a three-phase plan to install washers and dryers in each fire station for firefighters to wash their clothing. IAFF Local 244 has already secured some of the funding to start this project through various community donations. The remaining money has come from the department's NM Fire Fund, City Councilors discretionary funds, and other sources. While this project will help prevent cancer, it will not have the desired effect unless we can change the department's culture. Working with several "key leaders" in the department to change the mindset of regarding dirty gear is our best chance of success. We can no longer afford for our firefighters to wear dirty clothing like a badge of honor. It's up to our more senior and experienced firefighters to help us change this mentality and make for a safer work environment for the next generation of firefighters



## PURCHASED NEW APPARATUS

Our fire apparatus is critical to our response. Our front line apparatus must be replaced regularly, and the funding source to replace them has not grown. Therefore, this Fire Administration sought new funding to secure the apparatus our firefighters need to protect this community. Rather than using only General Obligation Bonds and our Fire Fund, we are using money from Community Block Development Grants administered by HUD, NM Capital Outlay, City Council District set-aside, payment from Wildland deployments, and Impact Fees. This diversified approach will help us close the gap on our apparatus replacement needs. In 2019 we spent 5.3 million dollars on new apparatus for the department, including two Engines, one Ladder, eight Rescues, three Battalion Chiefs vehicles, one Brush Truck, one REM vehicle/trailer, and eighteen other sedans and SUVs.



# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## BLUE CARD INCIDENT COMMAND TRAINING

We are committed to investing in the professional development of our Battalion Chiefs, specifically their incident command training. AFR has 16 Battalion Chiefs, with four in support divisions and the other twelve assigned to one of four battalions on three different shifts in the field. In 2018, six of them have completed the Blue Card Incident Command Certification Program, and the remainder completed the training in the spring of 2019. This training will help ensure our Battalion Chiefs can provide safe and consistent strategic and tactical decisions on the fire ground. After each Battalion Chief and several Deputy Chiefs, complete the training, they will work on updating the department's SOGs regarding Incident Command. This information will then be transferred to our annual refreshers and rank specific in-house certification courses.



## ECMO PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

In 2019, AFR partnered with UNMH critical care physicians to create a mobile ECMO program. ECMO stands for Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation, and is a surgical procedure used for patients needing heart and lung bypass after resuscitation from cardiac arrest. Prior to this program, if an ECMO candidate was recognized in the field, it required that AFR provide the initial care, confirm the patient met criteria, notify the hospital, package the patient for transport and try to reach the doors of UNMH ED all within 35 minutes from patient collapse. This time benchmark would in theory give the physicians enough time to assume care and perform the procedure. AFR and the UNMH physicians realized that there are certain geographic points in the City, which based on distance and traffic patterns, would make the “Golden Hour” benchmark a near impossibility. Because of this, AFR dedicated a spare Rescue to become ECMO-1, and the unit is housed at Station 3 near UNM Hospital. When a patient meets certain criteria and is in cardiac arrest, the personnel on Rescue 3 respond to UNM in ECMO-1, meet a critical care physician with the ECMO machine, and then respond to the cardiac arrest. If return of circulation is achieved by in-district personnel, the ECMO team takes over and the physician performs the procedure in the back of ECMO-1. The patient is then transferred on the pump to the hospital. In 2019, AFR and UNMH were the first system in North America to successfully bring this life saving procedure to the 911 system.

## RAPID EXTRACTION MODULE TEAM

AFR has added an invaluable resource to its Wildland Division today, the Rapid Extraction Module. The REM Team is a four-person team of Firefighters in a small utility vehicle that is qualified and equipped to provide advanced patient care, extrication, and extraction for downed firefighters during wildland fires. This may happen in remote locations where an individual requires rescue via high-angle rope rescue, extrication from an apparatus accident or a fallen tree, etc. The individuals that go out on this resource will be personnel from AFR's Wildland Division and Heavy Technical Rescue Division. When this unit is deployed, it will be staffed with two Paramedic Firefighters and two EMT – Basic Firefighters. The Command Vehicle, UTV, and rescue equipment were paid for with funds made from wildland deployments during the 2018 wildland fire season through the NM State Forestry Resource Mobilization Plan and totaled \$110,000.



## RE-IMPLEMENTED THE CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

In July of 2019 AFR re-implemented the department's Chaplaincy Program. The purpose of the program is to meet the spiritual needs of the members of AFR and to support them with resources when chaplaincy services are requested.

# 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## DEVELOPED A NEW QA PROCESS AND DISPATCH POLICY

For years, AFR utilized the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) for both Fire and Medical Dispatch accreditation. This process was insufficient and not cost-effective. AFR determined there were no benefits to spending countless hours and money to maintain this accreditation. Most of the process involves reviewing calls to verify most of the dispatch language is followed correctly. The dispatcher must follow the language provided in the program – which slows down our call processing time. Any deviance from that process knocks the score down. AFR is unique by having uniformed personnel dispatching fire and medical calls. Our dispatchers have a minimum of 3 years and four months of experience before being allowed to dispatch. The current accreditation process did not allow the dispatcher much leeway in utilizing their skills and expertise. Therefore, in 2019 AFR stopped subscribing to the IAED for both Fire and Medical Dispatch accreditation and developed our Quality Assurance process. By moving away from this current practice, AFR made changes to reduce dispatch times and allow our trained personnel to use their skills and knowledge to serve the citizens to the fullest extent.

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CALLS WITH APD

AFR and APD agreed to address sending the right resources to the right calls. APD decided to become the primary agency to respond to psychiatric/suicide calls, and AFR continued to respond to the “person down” incidents. Often, the psychiatric emergency calls do not have any medical complaint or component needing medical stabilization and are simply an individual having an isolated behavioral health emergency. APD SOPs identify that an APD officer can transport these individuals to an appropriate facility or call for assistance from an APD Mobile Crisis Team (MCT). Before this change, APD and AFR would jointly respond to these calls. APD and AFR agreed that APD would respond alone to psychiatric emergencies that have no identified medical complaint during the dispatch. If once they arrive, they determine that the patient has a medical complaint, they may call for an AFR response for a medical assessment. This program is proving successful in that if the patient has no medical concerns needing medical stabilization and transportation via an ambulance, and only need transport to a behavioral health facility, APD can address these calls alone. This reduces the number of public safety resources required for each incident.

## CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY FOR A NEW FIRE STATION 9

Construction for the new Fire Station 9 started in October 2019. The new location is on the Southside of Menaul and just West of Eubank, directly across the street from the current station. The fire district will remain the same. This station will accommodate additional apparatus to serve the community and offer better cancer prevention practices. New Fire Station 9 is approximately 10,500 square feet with three (3) drive-through apparatus bays. The total project cost will be \$5,849,570, with an expected completion date of October 2020. This station has been designed with cancer prevention in mind to include an enclosed and ventilated bunker gear storage room. Councilor Gibson is purchasing a new cascade unit installed in the new station to reduce unit downtime after fire events.



# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

Albuquerque has 22 Fire Stations strategically located throughout the city. Each fire station has a minimum of one Engine Co. staffed and available to respond 24/7. As in Fire Departments across the country, AFR fire stations and apparatus are identified by numbers as they are placed into service. Station 1 was the first fire station, and Engine 1 was the first engine put into service. Naturally, they were named Station 1 and Engine 1. As firefighters tend to be possessive of the apparatus on which they work, there was historically a tendency to identify the fire house by the apparatus housed there. For example, firefighters didn't work at a station called Number 3; they came to work at the station where Engine 3 ran out of – not Station 3 but Engine 3's house. Over the years, the tendency has grown to identify fire stations with the possessive term, and firefighters often still call their duty stations by that term. So, firefighters who were assigned to Station 1 would refer to their firehouse as 1's. There has always been a deep sense of community within the fire service, with firefighters holding to an unspoken camaraderie. With that comes another historical propensity toward drawing on a fire station's personal character to identify themselves from other stations through the use of station nicknames, logos, or firehouse murals.



Each fire station has at least one Captain assigned to one of the three shifts. If there are three or more apparatus assigned to the fire station, then each of the three shifts has a Captain.

***A minimum of 165 firefighters per day is necessary to fully staff the 60 Fire Rescue apparatus working out of 22 fire stations.***

## TYPICAL FIELD STAFFING

RANK	# OF POSITIONS PER SHIFT	DESCRIPTION
<b>BATTALION CHIEF</b>	4	Supervises multiple stations, all hazards response commander
<b>QI 78 PARAMEDIC CAPTAIN</b>	1	Quality Assurance Officer, EMS liaison
<b>CAPTAIN</b>	13	Station supervisor, Officer of most apparatus with the exception of a Rescue
<b>PARAMEDIC LIEUTENANT</b>	21	Typically Officer on a Rescue but can staff any apparatus
<b>SUPPRESSION LIEUTENANT</b>	19	Officer of most apparatus with the exception of a Rescue
<b>PARAMEDIC DRIVER</b>	21	Operates Rescue and Brush Truck, can be certified to operate suppression apparatus
<b>SUPPRESSION DRIVER</b>	32	Operates most apparatus with the exception of a Rescue
<b>FIREFIGHTER 1ST CLASS</b>	54	Non-probationary firefighter
<b>FIREFIGHTER 2ND CLASS</b>		Probationary firefighter

# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

## ENGINES

Engine companies - or pumpers - form the core of AFR's emergency response capability. Engines carry hose, and can pump water from their own water tanks. Each fire station has one Engine Co. assigned to it. They are designed primarily for firefighting operations; however, they also are heavily used for EMS, HazMat, auto extrication, and technical rescue. The primary purpose of a pumper is to transport firefighters to an emergency event, provide a limited supply of water, and the ability to pump water from a static source, with which to fight fires. They also carry all the hose, tools, and equipment needed by firefighting personnel. The AFR carries enough equipment to address a wide-range of firefighting and rescue tasks, including ground ladders, pike poles, axes and cutting equipment, halligan tools, ventilation equipment, floodlights, extrication equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, and other general tools. Minimum staffing for Engines is four, one Officer, one Driver and two Firefighters.

## LADDERS

AFR operates seven Aerial Ladder trucks – also called Ladder Companies – as well as holding two as reserves. These powerful apparatus are rarely assigned to respond alone; they typically are assigned on runs with Engine Companies or other apparatus. Along with a full cache of rescue, ventilation, and cutting equipment, they carry numerous ground ladders, and aerial ladders or elevating platforms. On fire scenes, Ladder Companies are generally responsible for laddering; utilities; ventilation; forcible entry; search and rescue; and salvage and overhaul. Minimum staffing for Ladders is three, one Officer, one Driver and one Firefighter.



# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

## RESCUES

The 911 emergency response system is one of the most critical public safety services provided to the Albuquerque community. Since AFR fire stations are strategically located throughout the City, the Department's "fire service-based" emergency medical services can deliver time-critical responses to provide the most effective patient care. We provide this essential public safety service with an emphasis on responder safety and compassionate patient care.

The Department provides Advanced Life Support EMS and transport capability, using twenty one Rescue Units, with seven in-reserve. Minimum staffing includes two paramedics, one Officer and one Driver. They are responsible for providing for the stabilization and packaging of patients for transport to definitive hospital care. All AFR Rescues carry all equipment necessary to provide services according to a Paramedic's advanced levels of pre-hospital medical assessment and care.

There are also two Basic Life Support (BLS) Rescues staffed during the day in the southeast heights. Minimum staffing includes two paramedics, one Officer and one Driver. These BLS Rescues respond to low acuity calls within a specific area.

## SQUADS

For AFR, the apparatus capability for either Hazardous Materials or Heavy Technical Rescue is called a Squad. These apparatus are critical assets during routine fire calls, as well as those less common, such as dangerous toxins, trench collapses; major traffic accidents; chemical, biological, or other dangerous toxin emergencies; and other events that require a specialized response capability. Squads are very much like huge rolling toolboxes operated by firefighters with advanced skills and training. They are essential components of the Department's response potential and proficiency. Minimum staffing for Hazardous Materials Squads is two, one Officer, and one Driver. Minimum staffing for the HTR Squad is four, one Officer, one Driver and two Firefighters.





# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

## COMMAND VEHICLE (CV1)

CV1 is the apparatus used for major or extended incidents within the greater Albuquerque area – or upon request, as a unified command post – when collaborating with multiple fire departments or other agencies. The 2006 Pierce Lance Command vehicle contains a wide array of equipment used for planning, communications, and incident management. At emergency scenes, this mobile dispatch and command facility is typically staffed by an Incident Commander, Senior Advisor, and subordinate support staff. CV1 is operated by one member of the Technical Services Division at the request of the Deputy Chief of Operations.



## WILDLAND BRUSH TRUCKS

Albuquerque's high desert landscape occasionally sees vegetation fires that can quickly grow complex, and require non-traditional resource needs. These fires can burn across jurisdictional boundaries, and impact State, County, tribal, or federal lands, but when they burn within the Albuquerque area, they are low frequency but high risk incidents for Department personnel. These events often occur in areas that are out-of-reach of conventional firefighting apparatus.

In order to meet the Department's primary objective of fire fighter safety, AFR maintains five frontline Wildland fire engines (or Brush Trucks) and one reserved for deployments in its fleet. These apparatus are not staffed and are operated with the station personnel assigned to other frontline units. Brush trucks specifically designed to assist in fighting wildfires by transporting firefighters to the scene and providing them with access to the fire, along with water and other equipment. They are equipped with four-wheel drive transmissions to be more efficient and effective when driving over rough terrain, and extended cabs that can hold up to five firefighters.



# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

## QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER

Unit 78 is an SUV, staffed by the Department's EMS Quality Assurance Officer – a Paramedic Captain who plays a critical role in serious rescue or medical-related situations. The QA Officer is charged with the implementation and oversight of an organized method of auditing and evaluating all patient care within the Department's EMS system. Minimum staffing is one Paramedic Captain.

## BATTALION CHIEFS

AFR Battalion Commanders oversee one of four geographic battalions, and supervise and perform specialized functions within the Department. They are also responsible for directing emergency scene operations in their assigned districts. Battalion Commanders drive sport utility vehicles that are equipped with communications equipment, such as mobile data terminals, 800 MHz mobile radios, Bendix King radios (for both UHF and VHF) and portable radios. They also carry SCBA; an EMS bag; an automatic external defibrillator; a RIT (rapid intervention team) kit; and a thermal imaging camera. Minimum staffing consists of one Battalion Chief.



## APPARATUS STAFFING



BATTALION CHIEF TRUCK	1 BATTALION CHIEF
RESCUE	1 PARAMEDIC LIEUTENANT 1 PARAMEDIC DRIVER
ENGINE	1 LIEUTENANT 1 DRIVER 2 FIREFIGHTERS
LADDER	1 CAPTAIN 1 DRIVER 1-2 FIREFIGHTERS
HAZMAT SQUAD	1 CAPTAIN 1 DRIVER
HTR SQUAD	1 CAPTAIN 1 DRIVER 2 FIREFIGHTERS
QI TRUCK	1 PARAMEDIC CAPTAIN

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE 2019

## FIREHOUSE<sup>®</sup> NATIONAL RUN SURVEY 2019

### TOTAL CALLS

DEPARTMENT	TOTAL CALLS
New York, NY	2,200,000
Chicago, IL	851,769
Los Angeles City, CA	499,167
Baltimore City, MD	347,170
Philadelphia, PA	321,072
Phoenix, AZ	225,406
Washington, DC	212,458
San Diego, CA	205,516
San Antonio, TX	203,309
San Bernardino County, CA	167,677
Prince George's County, MD	152,586
Jacksonville, FL	152,281
Orange County, CA	151,812
Indianapolis, IN	150,556
Memphis, TN	146,681
Palm Beach County, FL	133,580
Orange County, FL	126,982
Nashville, TN	126,172
St. Louis, MO	123,514
Denver, CO	123,428
Montgomery County, MD	122,754
Fort Worth, TX	122,048
Hillsborough County, FL	113,178
Fairfax County, VA	106,547
Albuquerque, NM	105,526
Polk County, FL	100,052

### BUSIEST ENGINE

DEPARTMENT	BUSIEST ENGINE	RUNS
New York, NY	E290	6,911
Washington, DC	E10	6,814
San Bernardino County, CA	ME224	6,808
Spokane, WA	ARU1	6,745
Stockton, CA	E9	6,608
Orange County, FL	E51	6,141
Denver, CO	E8	5,936
San Diego, CA	E17	5,656
Chula Vista, CA	E51	5,604
Milwaukee, WI	E13	5,563
Los Angeles City, CA	E57	5,536
Albuquerque, NM	E5	5,532
Bakersfield, CA	E6	5,519
Phoenix, AZ	E7	5,469
Aurora, CO	E2	5,463
Chicago, IL	E122	5,459
Modesto, CA	E1	5,381
Fort Worth, TX	E5	5,355
Tampa, FL	E13	5,321
Providence, RI	E3	5,258
San Jose, CA	E26	5,216
Baltimore City, MD	E33	5,211
San Antonio, TX	E44	5,186
Sacramento, CA	E2	5,141
Jacksonville, FL	E22	4,994
Colorado Springs, CO	E8	4,975
Sacramento Metro, CA	E53	4,915

## ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE

25th Busiest Fire Department **105,526**

Engine 5 : 12th Busiest Engine **5,532**



### TOP 5 NON-MEDICAL CALLS

<b>ALARMS</b>	<b>4,896</b>
<b>OUTSIDE FIRES</b>	<b>2,271</b>
<b>CITIZEN ASSISTS</b>	<b>796</b>
<b>STRUCTURE FIRES</b>	<b>789</b>
<b>SMOKE OUTSIDE</b>	<b>636</b>



ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE RESPONDED TO **105,526** CALLS IN 2019. **93,334** OF THOSE CALLS WERE MEDICAL EMERGENCIES AND **12,180** WERE FIRE AND NON-MEDICAL CALLS.



### 2019 AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES

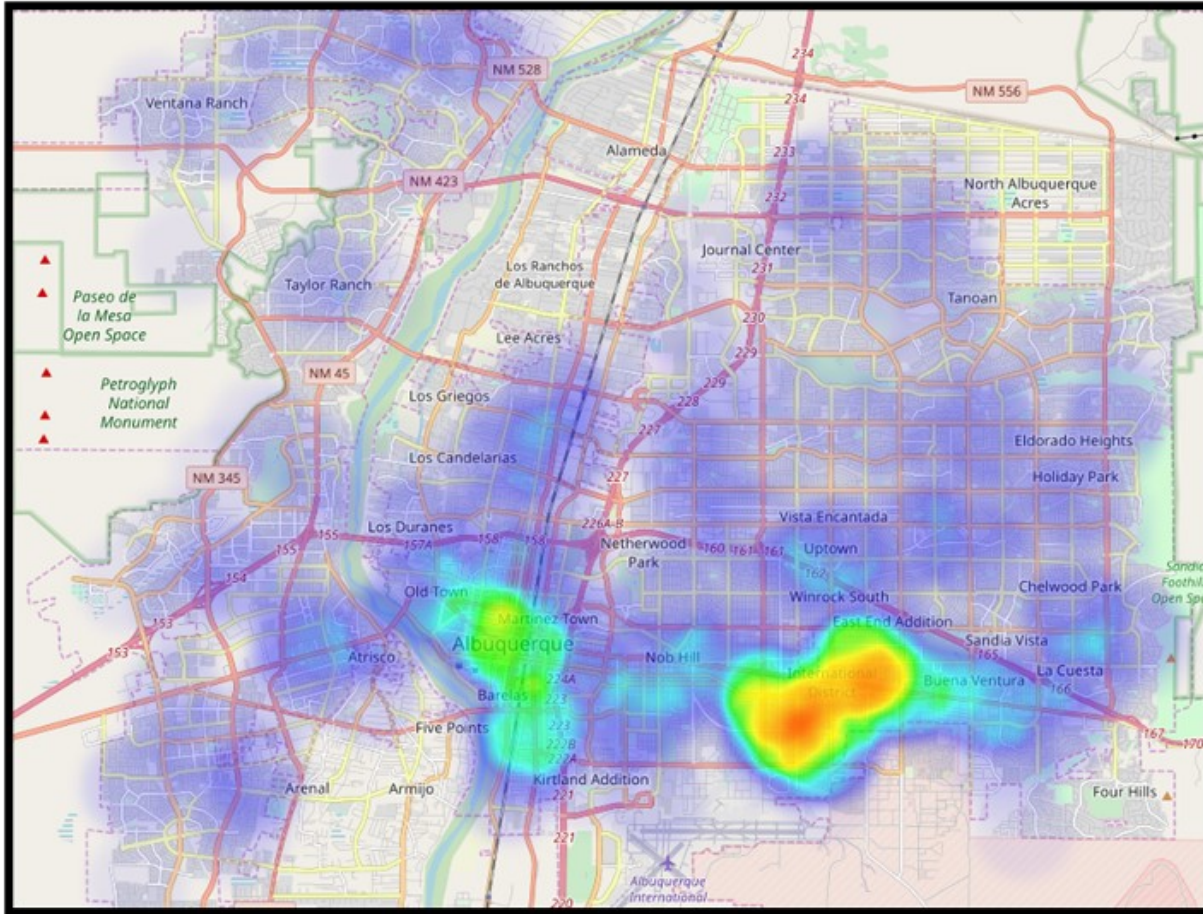
<b>ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT</b>	<b>00:08:17</b>
<b>BASIC LIFE SUPPORT</b>	<b>00:08:28</b>
<b>FIRE CALLS</b>	<b>00:07:10</b>

THESE TIMES REFLECT THE MOMENT A 911 CALL IS RECEIVED IN THE DISPATCH CENTER TO A UNIT ARRIVING ON SCENE.

### TOP 5 MEDICAL CALLS

<b>SICK CALLS</b>	<b>13,678</b>
<b>UNKNOWN PROBLEM</b>	<b>11,678</b>
<b>FALLS</b>	<b>9,031</b>
<b>OVERDOSE/POISONING</b>	<b>7,656</b>
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT</b>	<b>7,200</b>

# STRUCTURE FIRE HEAT MAP | ALBUQUERQUE 2019



**789 STRUCTURE FIRES**  
(DOWN FROM 874 IN 2018)

**63 ABANDONED / VACANT**  
**STRUCTURE FIRES**

**8 CIVILIAN FATALITIES (1 IN 2018)**

**23 CIVILIAN INJURIES (14 IN 2018)**

**8 FIREFIGHTER INJURIES (4 IN 2018)**



# BATTALION CHIEFS

Battalion Chiefs manage the daily operation of firefighting battalions—each consisting of several fire stations and multiple fire companies. A Battalion Chief has command over each fire station's officers, and each company or unit's officers, as well as the uniformed firefighters. They also provide incident oversight and strategic command at working fires or other large-scale emergency incidents. AFR's response jurisdiction is broken out into four districts, each serving a different area of the city. To accommodate the most timely and efficient response, Battalion Chiefs are housed at district headquarter stations.

### BATTALION 4 | STATION 17

**PASQUALE GALLUCCI**      **CHAD KIM**      **ROBERT LUJAN**

### BATTALION 3 | STATION 20

**JASON GARCIA**      **JOSEPH LOPEZ**      **RYAN STRACENER**

### BATTALION 2 | STATION 5

**JAMES BLEA**      **SANTOS GARCIA**      **ZAR HORTON**

### BATTALION 1 | STATION 4

**EMILY KANE**      **KEVIN O'BRIEN**      **ALEX MONTERO**

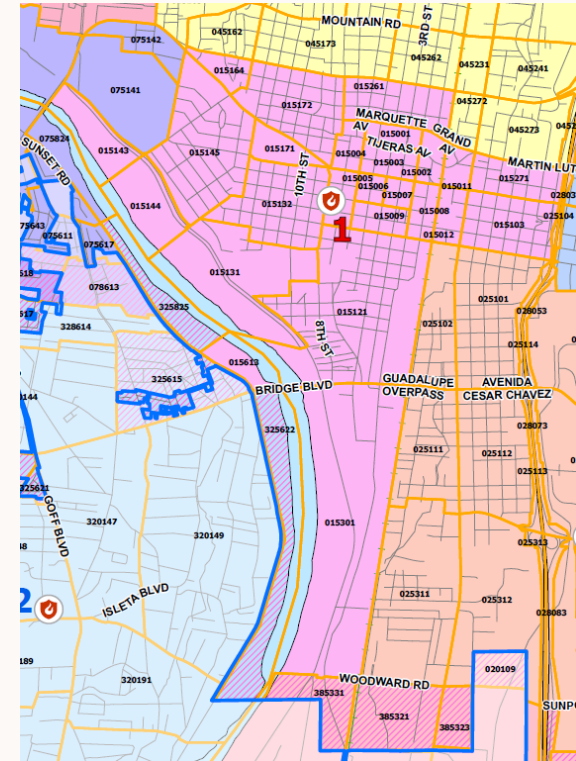
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>BATT 1</b>	<b>1,178</b>
<b>BATT 2</b>	<b>1,129</b>
<b>BATT 3</b>	<b>570</b>
<b>BATT 4</b>	<b>707</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,584</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 1 | 724 SILVER SW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Built in 1956, Station 1 serves Albuquerque's Downtown and has a response area of 3.4 square miles. This area includes the historic Baretas and Country Club neighborhoods, Downtown high rises, the Albuquerque Bio-Park, and the Rio Grande bosque. The Fire Marshal's Office is located on the second floor of this firehouse and the AFR Pharmacy is on the north east corner of the first floor. Fire Station 1 is one of the largest stations in the city, houses nine firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 1, Ladder 1, Rescue 1, and Brush 1. The crews have specialized training which qualifies them for the Department's Wildland Firefighting Task Force.



### STATION CAPTAINS



JAVIER FERNANDEZ



EDDIE MIRALES



CHRIS ROMERO

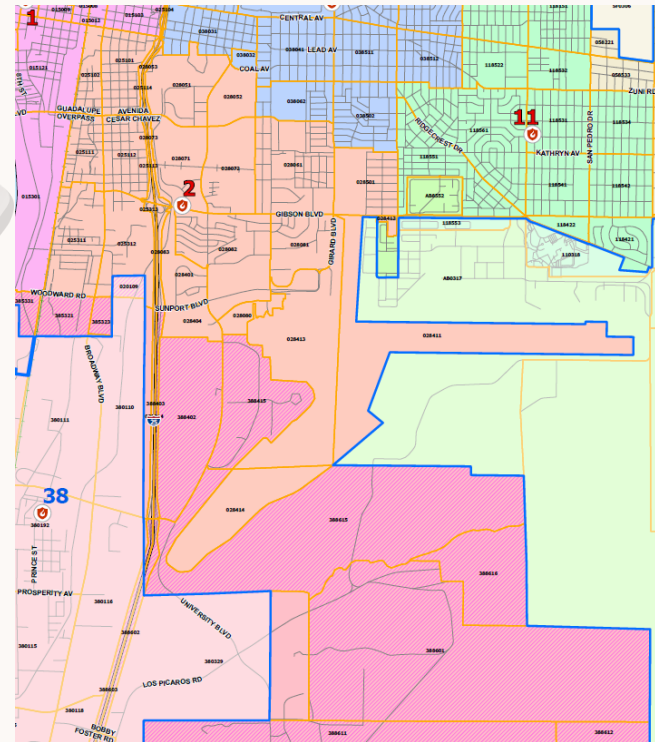
### 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 1</b>	<b>3,875</b>
<b>RESCUE 1</b>	<b>2,983</b>
<b>LADDER 1</b>	<b>1,460</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,313</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 2 | 2401 ALUMNI DR. SE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2**

Station 2 is one of AFR's newest facilities. Built in 2013, it replaced a single engine fire house that was built in 1926 in Albuquerque's historic Huning Highlands. It is situated in the City's far southeast area to serve the Gibson Corridor with a response area of almost 31 square miles. It is strategically located to serve the southern I-25 corridor, sports facilities, the Central New Mexico Community College campus, the University of New Mexico South Campus, and the San Jose and Kirtland Addition neighborhoods. The three bay station houses six firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 2, Rescue 2, and the Rehabilitation Unit that is used for large-scale or extended incidents. Station 2 is also home to the Department's Field Operations Center (FOC) and assigned personnel. The FOC is responsible for daily personnel staffing. It was built in tandem with Station 7 and they share the same floorplan and design. Station 2 can be recognized by the now-iconic "Fire Rocket" sculpture displayed in front.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**JASON GALINDRO**

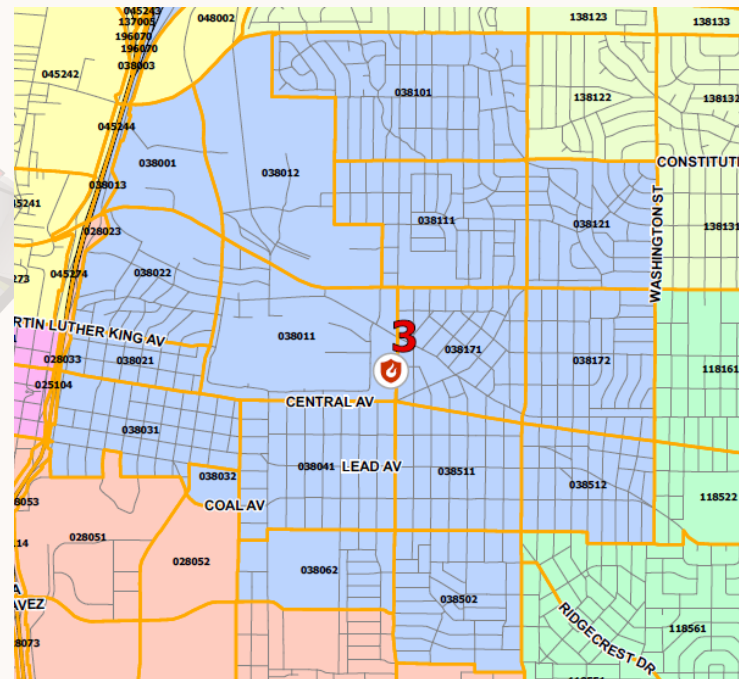
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 2</b>	<b>2,597</b>
<b>RESCUE 2</b>	<b>2,664</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,261</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 3 | 141 GIRARD BLVD. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6**

Built in 1972, the current station replaced an older Station 3 which was originally built in 1936 using Works Progress Administration funding. Station 3 serves the University district and has a response area of 4.5 square miles that includes the University of New Mexico, the I-25 and I-40 corridors, and the Nob Hill neighborhood. Another multiple, Station 3 houses ten firefighters per shift, staffing Albuquerque's sole Heavy Technical Rescue Task Force with Squad 2 as well as Rescue and Engine 3. The task force responds to any event requiring specialized rescue capabilities: everything from high angle rescues to extended vehicle extrications, structural and trench collapses, and swift water events. The task force's Squad 2 is the Department's newest apparatus, and was acquired in late 2017.



## STATION CAPTAINS



**RICHARD  
COLLADO**



**LLOYD  
RANTANEN**



**ANDREW  
WEST**

## 2019 RESPONSES

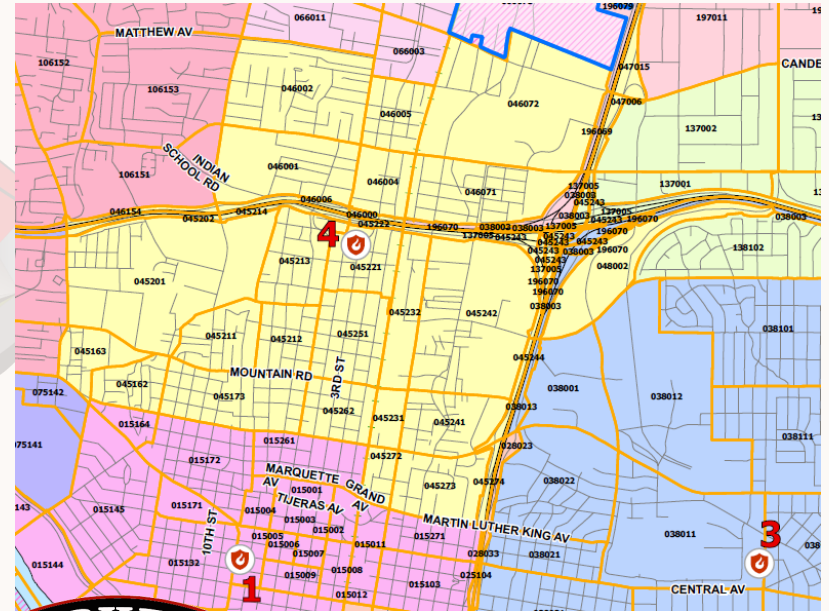
<b>ENGINE 3</b>	<b>3,860</b>
<b>RESCUE 3</b>	<b>3,294</b>
<b>SQUAD 2</b>	<b>1,451</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,605</b>



# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 4 | 301 McKNIGHT AVE. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3**

Station 4 was built in 1961, moving from its previous Wells Park location at Mountain Road and 5th Street. The station serves the near North Valley area and has a running district of 3.9 square miles. As one of Albuquerque's older areas, the diverse district includes both heavy commercial and industrial facilities, museums, the historic Wells Park, Sawmill, and Martinez Town neighborhoods, as well as Old Town – the site of Albuquerque's original founding in 1706. It also serves the Big-I and the I-25 / I-40 interchange. Station 4 is AFR's largest multiple, housing twelve firefighters per shift and staffing Engine 4, Ladder 4, Rescue 4, Squad 1, and Battalion Chief 1. It is home to one of two Hazardous Materials Task Forces.



## STATION CAPTAINS



JASON CHARLTON



PETER JARMOSEVICH



ALBERT ORTEGA



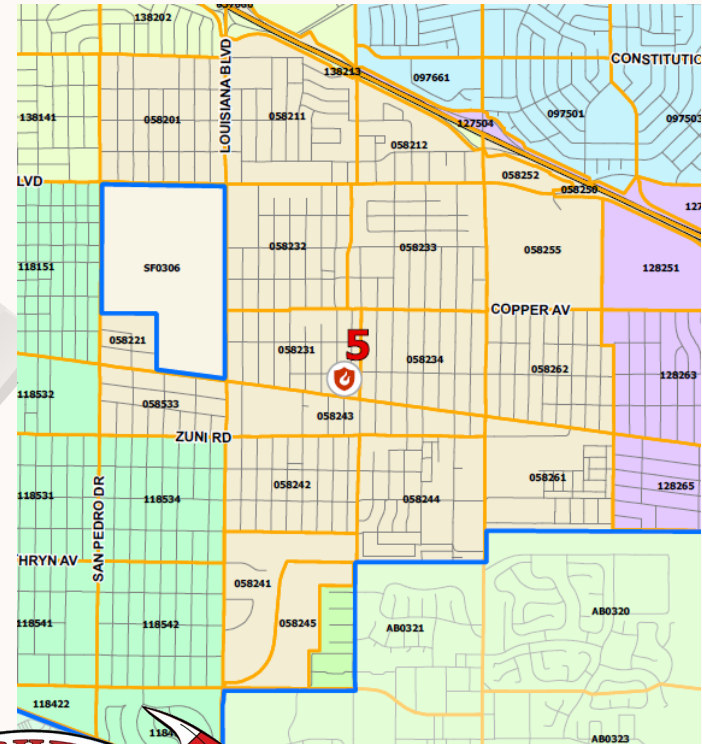
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 4</b>	<b>3,509</b>
<b>RESCUE 4</b>	<b>3,284</b>
<b>LADDER 4</b>	<b>1,322</b>
<b>SQUAD 1</b>	<b>1,053</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,168</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 5 | 123 DALLAS ST. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6**

The current Station 5 was built in 2005 to replace a 1950s-era single-engine house. It serves the City's culturally diverse and densely-populated International District, and a service area of 3.4 square miles. Station 5 is not only one of AFR's busiest fire stations, it is one of the busiest fire stations in the nation – ranking as high as 31st busiest in 2016. As a multiple, Station 5 houses ten firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 5, Ladder 5, Rescue 5, BLS 2, and Battalion Chief 2. Built concurrently with Station 21, they share similar floorplans and designs.



## STATION CAPTAINS



**MICHAEL  
BACA**



**LAWRENCE  
OTERO**



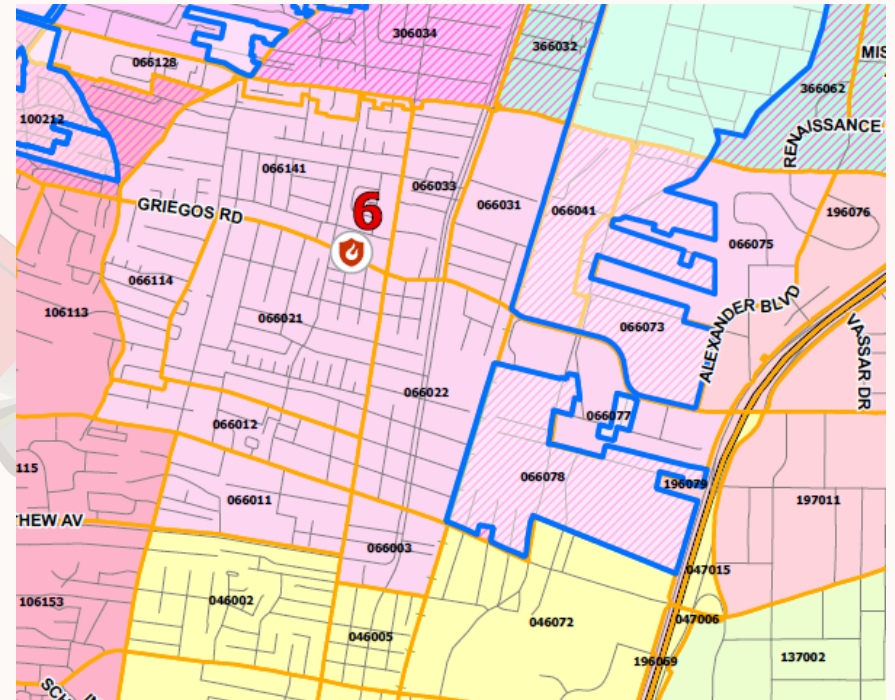
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 5</b>	<b>5,532</b>
<b>RESCUE 5</b>	<b>4,943</b>
<b>LADDER 5</b>	<b>2,134</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,198</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 6 | 623 GRIEGOS RD. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2**

Station 6, built in 1951, is one of the Department's oldest stations and serves a response area of 5.9 square miles including, the mostly residential, North Valley neighborhoods. Station 6 houses six firefighters per shift staffing Engine 6 and Rescue 6. The station's Motel 6 nickname comes from its location at the intersection of Griegos Road and 6th Street, as well as its lower call volume.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**RYAN  
PERRY**

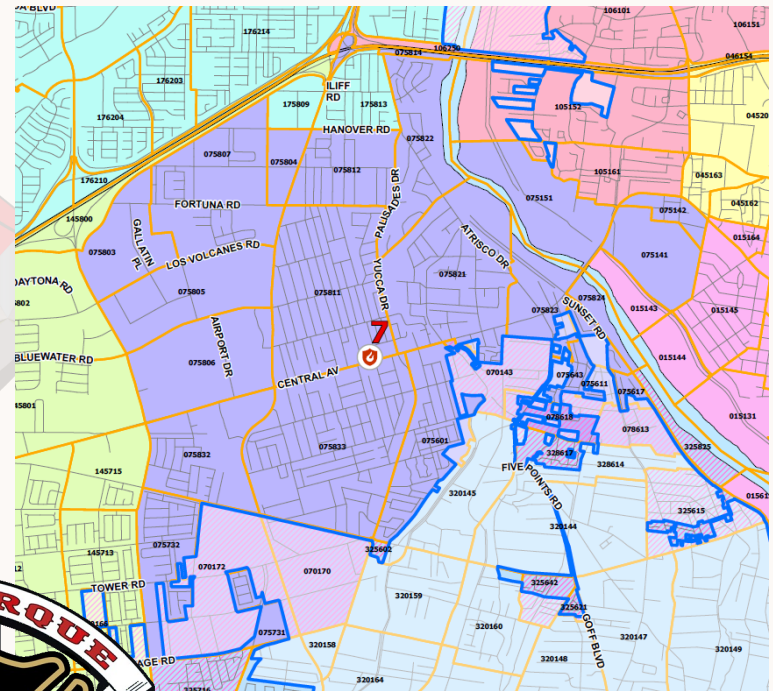
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 6</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>RESCUE 6</b>	<b>1,623</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,123</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 7 | 5715 CENTRAL AVE. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3**

Opening its doors in 2013, Station 7 moved just up the road to its current location from its original home which was built in 1951. It has a response area of 5.9 square miles, which serves Albuquerque's Southwest Mesa. The district is made up of densely-populated residential neighborhoods, semi-rural areas, and the South Coors and West Central Corridors. The station is staffed with six firefighters per shift, serving on Engine 7 and Rescue 7. The Department's mobile Air Supply apparatus is also assigned here and responds to large-scale or extended events with its breathing air capability. The station is also home to a 2014 sculpture installation, "Hydra", a giant fire hydrant shooting a cascade of water from its top.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**JOHN LUNA**



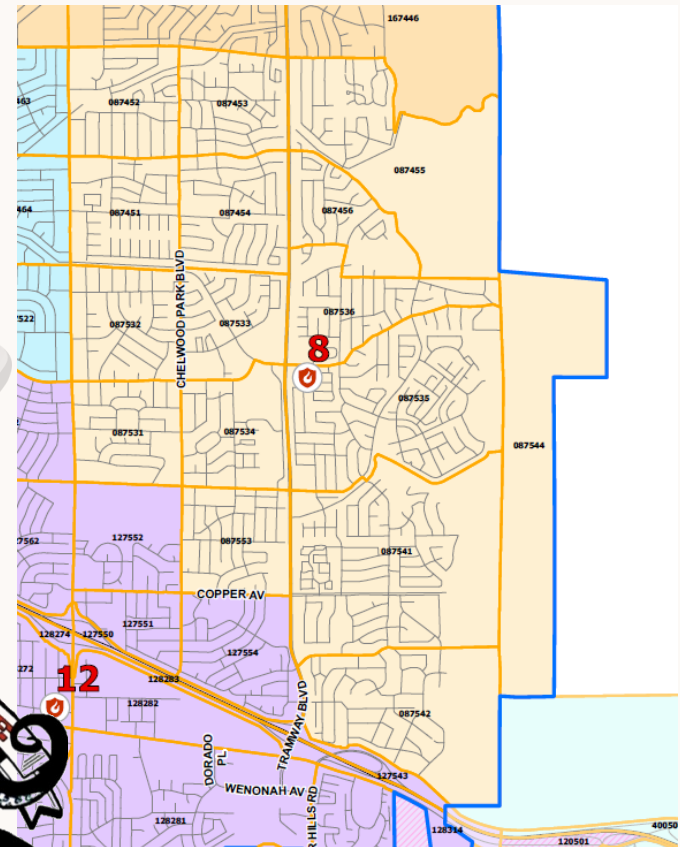
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 7</b>	<b>3,732</b>
<b>RESCUE 7</b>	<b>3,605</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,337</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 8 | 1400 INDIAN VIEW NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9**

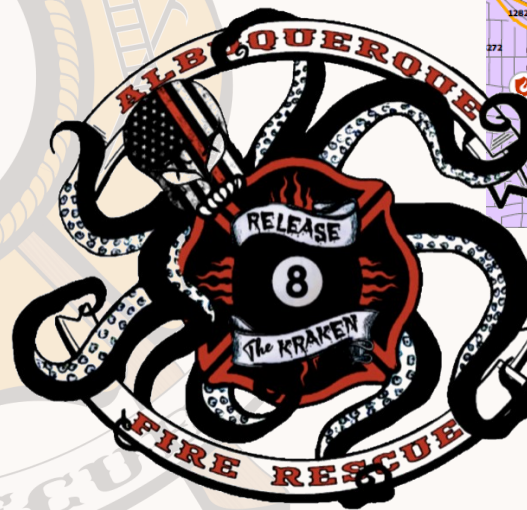
*Built in 1992, Station 8 is the Department's most easterly station, serving the City's Sandia Mountains foothills, with a response area of 6.1 square miles. Station 8 is staffed with six firefighters per shift, serving on Engine 8 and Rescue 8. The station was moved in 1992 from its original Mid-town location at Graceland and Menaul NE.*



## STATION CAPTAIN



**DAVID  
WEAVER**



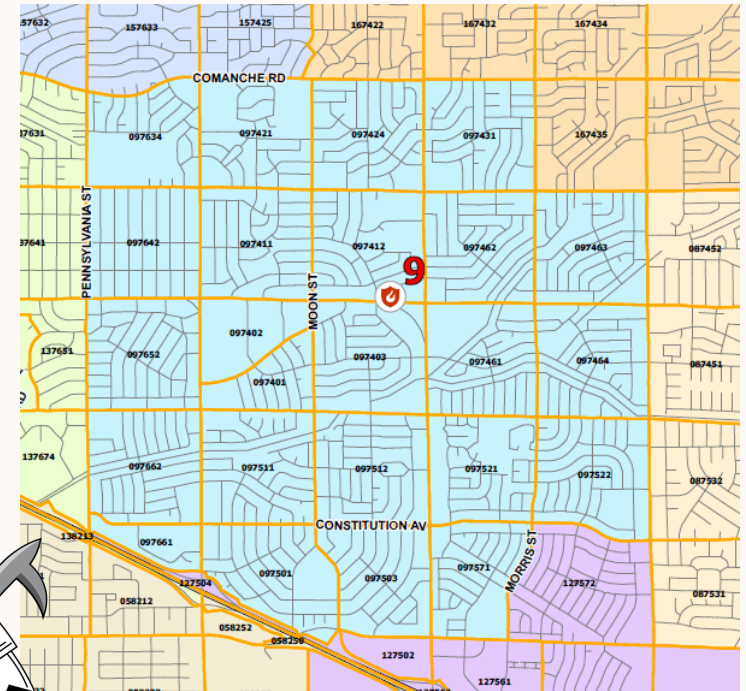
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 8</b>	<b>2,743</b>
<b>RESCUE 8</b>	<b>2,812</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,555</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 9 | 9601 MENAUL BLVD. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7**

One of the Department's older firehouses, Station 9, was built in 1954. It serves Albuquerque's mid-Heights neighborhoods, with a response area of 5.5 square miles, including mostly residential and retail occupancies. Between 1940 and 1950, the City's population more than doubled, from 35,449 to 96,815, and homebuilders scurried to meet demand in the growing Heights area. Station 9 was constructed as a single engine house to serve the then new Hoffmantown and Snow Heights Additions. The station was expanded in the 1990s, when a Rescue unit was added to support the increasing call volume. Using General Obligation Bond funding, a site was acquired at Snow Heights Circle and Menaul, immediately across the street from the current location, as the future home of a re-constructed Station 9. Architectural design and development is currently underway, and the new station is scheduled to open in the fall of 2020.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**GREG  
ARAGON**



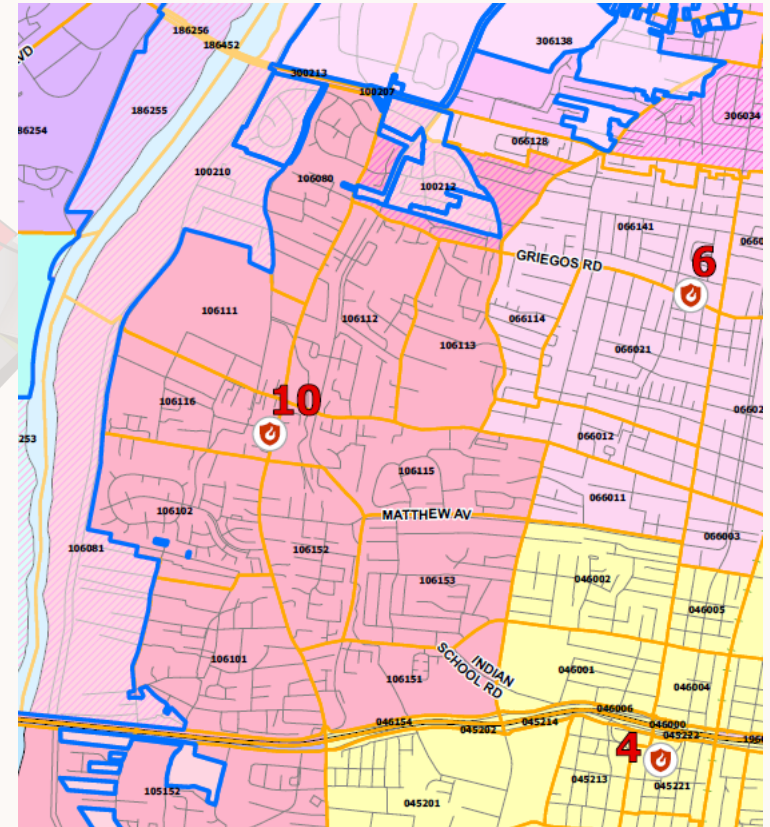
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 9</b>	<b>3,610</b>
<b>RESCUE 9</b>	<b>3,537</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,147</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 10 | 2841 RIO GRANDE BLVD NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Fire Station 10 was built in 1956 to serve Albuquerque's Near North Valley, and has a service area of 5.0 square miles. They are first-due to mostly residential neighborhoods, including the historic Los Duranes and Los Griegos neighborhoods, as well as the newer Thomas Village and Matthew Meadows. Station 10 is the Department's only remaining single-unit station. It houses four firefighters per shift, serving on Engine 10 – the Department's only Advanced Life Support (ALS) engine. As part of the Department's Wildland Task Force, Station 10's firefighters are cross-trained on Brush 10, which is housed at the station and is utilized during wildland responses in the bosque or other open space areas.



### STATION CAPTAIN



MARTIN  
McCOY

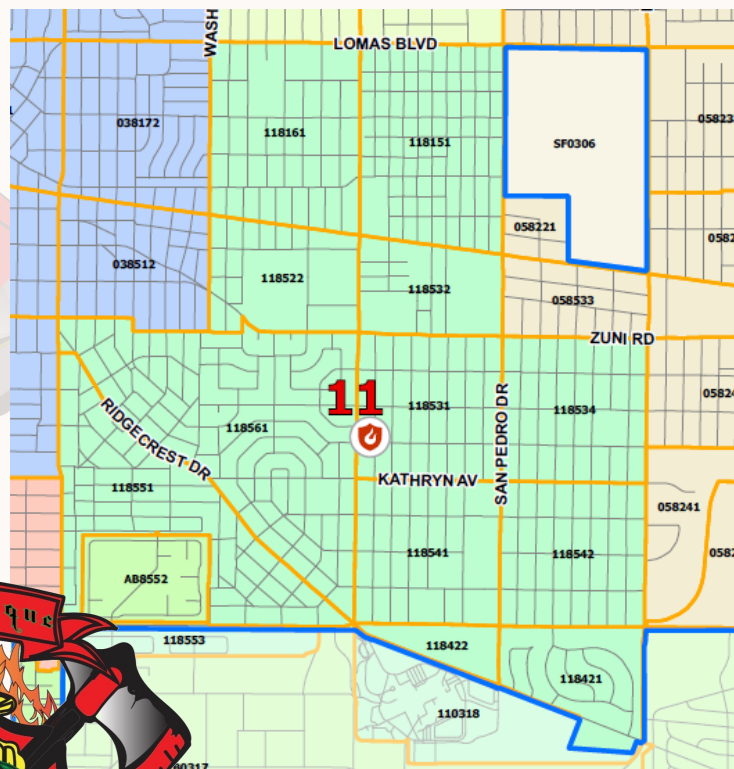
### 2019 RESPONSES

ENGINE 10	1,900
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# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 11 | 5403 SOUTHERN BLVD SE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Another of Albuquerque's older fire houses, Station 11 was built in 1956 to protect the City's Southeast Heights, a response area of 3.3 square miles, made up of commercial occupancies, dense apartment populations, and the Ridgecrest and Parkland Hills neighborhoods. Station 11 was remodeled in 2000 and is home to six firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 11 and Rescue 11. The 2016 Firehouse Magazine National Run Survey identified Engine 11 as the 11th busiest engine company in the nation, with 5,669 calls for service. With its 5,262 responses, Rescue 11 was ranked in the top 25 busiest rescues in the country.



### STATION CAPTAIN



ALEJANDRO MARRUFO



### 2019 RESPONSES

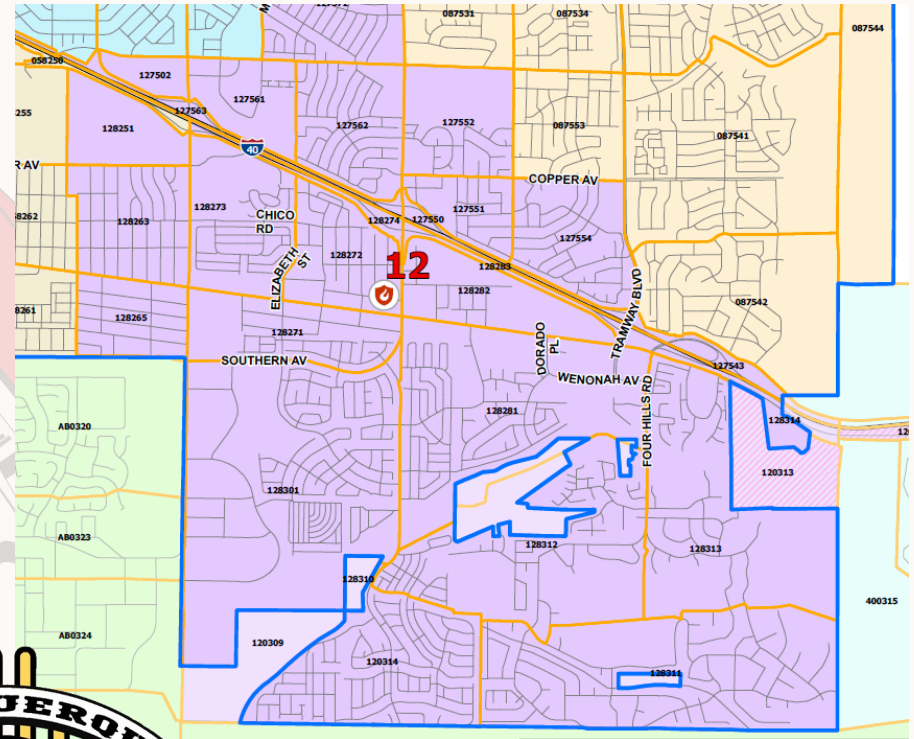
<b>ENGINE 11</b>	<b>5,084</b>
<b>RESCUE 11</b>	<b>4,879</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,682</b>



# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 12 | 201 MURIEL ST. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9**

Station 12 was built in 1960 to protect the East Gateway area of Albuquerque. Its 8.1 square mile response area includes a variety of commercial occupancies; the East Central Corridor; Interstate 40; and the Buena Ventura, Four Hills, and Voltera neighborhoods. The six firefighters per shift staff Engine 12 and Rescue 12. These units are consistently two of the busiest apparatus in the city.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**STEVEN  
STRATMOEN**



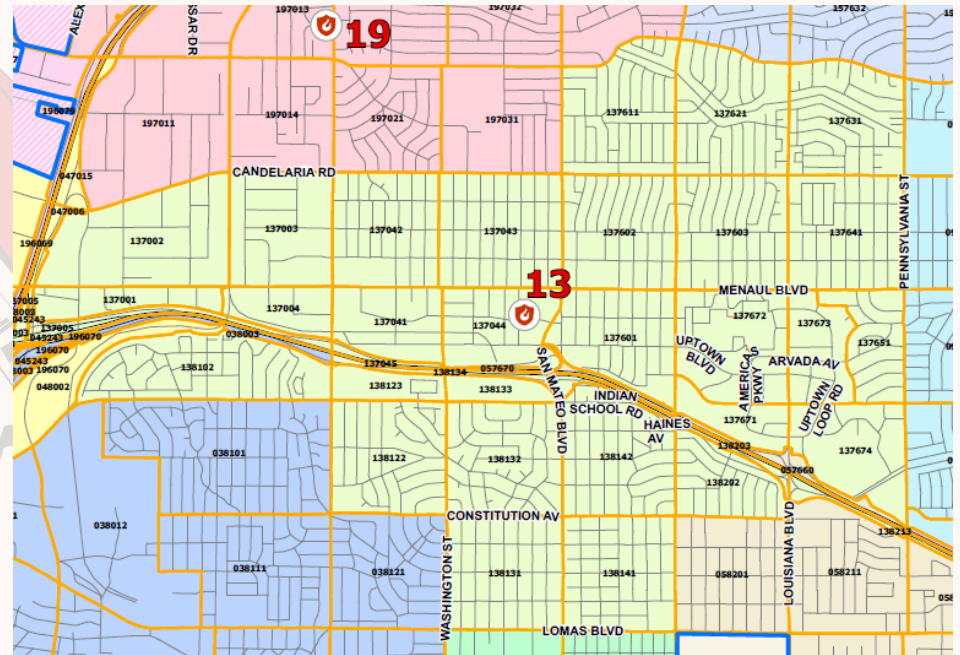
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 12</b>	<b>4,589</b>
<b>RESCUE 12</b>	<b>4,253</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,842</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 13 | 4901 PROSPECT AVE. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

Station 13 was built in 1987, moving about a mile west from its previous location. Its diverse response area, of 6.1 square miles, includes the large retail outlets, shopping malls, and light commercial occupancies of Albuquerque's mid-Heights, also known as Uptown. Additionally, Station 13 is first-due to Interstates 25 and 40, as well as the Bel-Air, Sandia Ridge, and Altura Park neighborhoods. The crews at Station 13 are also critical components in the swift water response to the City's arroyo system. Station 13 is another of the Department's multiple stations, and is home to 11 firefighters per shift who staff Engine 13, Ladder 13, Rescue 13, and Squad 3. It is home to one of two AFD Hazardous Materials Task Forces. Engine 13 and Rescue 13 are consistently two of the busiest apparatus in the City. Ladder 13 is one of two platform ladders currently in service within AFR.



### STATION CAPTAINS



KATHRYN  
BASILE



JARROD  
BOTTINELLI



MICHAEL  
RODGERS

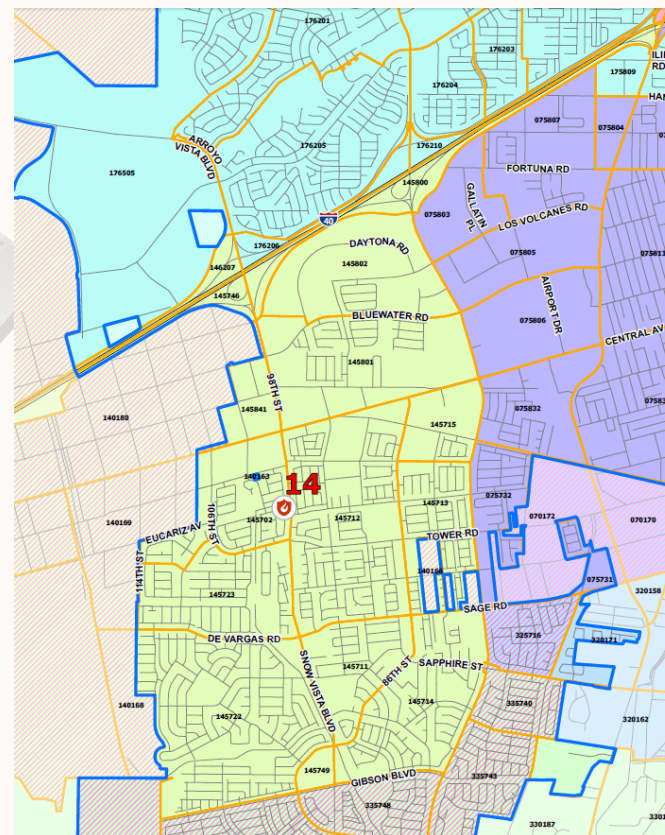
### 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 13</b>	<b>4,608</b>
<b>RESCUE 13</b>	<b>4,060</b>
<b>LADDER 13</b>	<b>1,734</b>
<b>SQUAD 3</b>	<b>1,262</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,664</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 14 | 9810 EUCARIZ AVE. SW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1**

Station 14 was built in 1998 – just around the corner from its previous location on 98th Street SW, a fire station that had been in use since its acquisition from the Bernalillo County Fire Department in 1964. It protects the City’s West Gate and SW Mesa areas, and a running district of 10.7 square miles. It is first-due to residential neighborhoods, the west Central Corridor, and long stretches of Interstate 40 to the west of the City. The six firefighters-per-shift at Station 14 staff Engine 14, Rescue 14, and a Mesa Response brush truck. The station is known for its responses to automobile and semi-tractor trailer fires, as well as the significant number of responses to motor vehicle accidents on Interstate 40 west of Albuquerque. Designed as a prototype with Station 19, they share similar designs and floorplans.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**JOSEPH CHAVEZ**

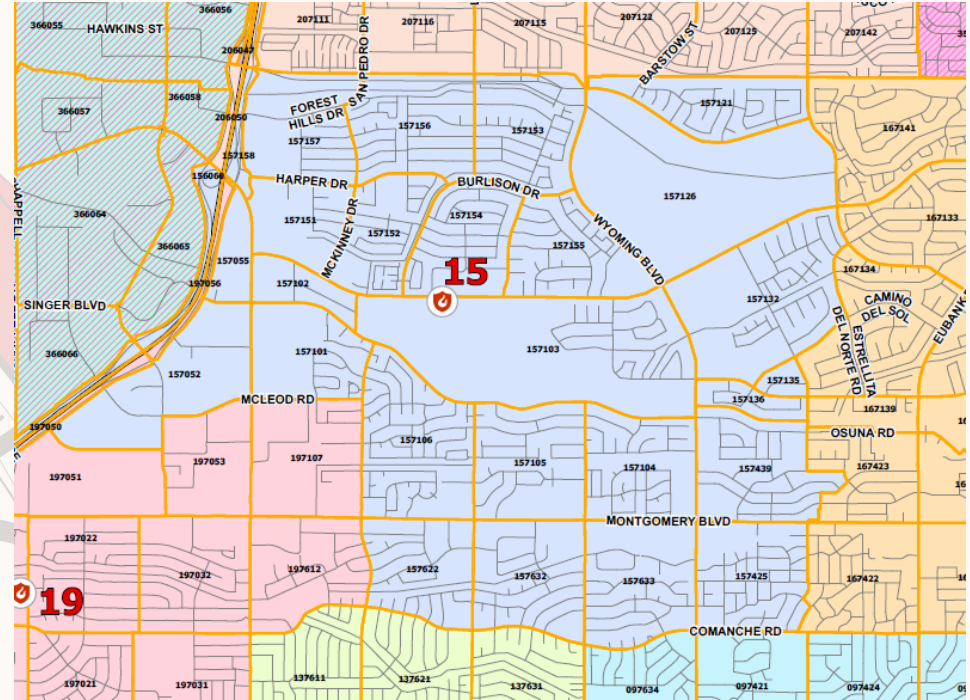
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 14</b>	<b>2,749</b>
<b>RESCUE 14</b>	<b>2,851</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,600</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 15 | 6600 ACADEMY RD. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

*Built in 1974 to protect the North Albuquerque area of the City, Station 15 has a response area of 7.2 square miles. Included in this are the heavily-populated Bear Canyon, Academy Heights, and Tanoan neighborhoods; the busy retail of San Mateo Boulevard; and the northern stretch of the Interstate 25 Corridor. Station 15 is another of the Department's multiple stations, and home to nine firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 15, Ladder 15, and Rescue 15.*



## STATION CAPTAINS



**RAYMOND  
ELKS**



**CARLOS  
OTERO**



**JOHN  
ROUMPF**

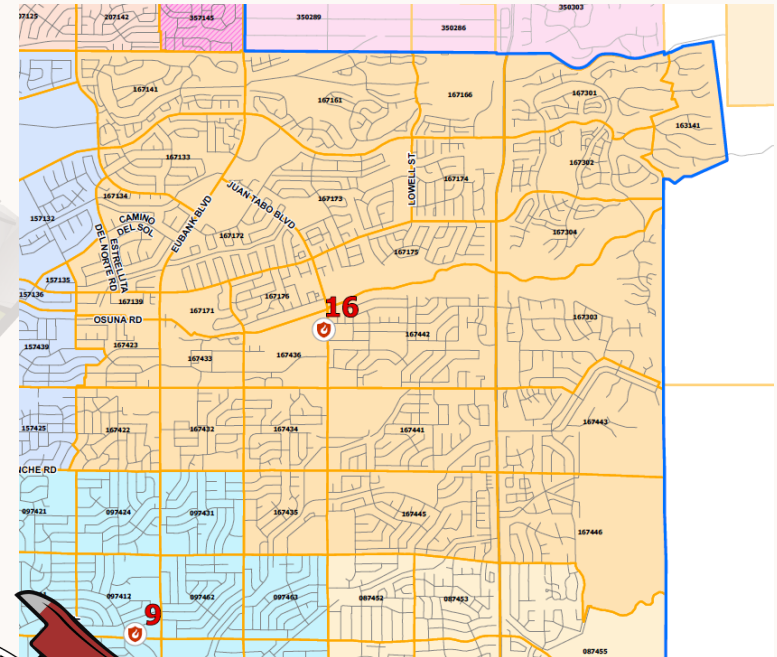
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 15</b>	<b>3,332</b>
<b>RESCUE 15</b>	<b>3,146</b>
<b>LADDER 15</b>	<b>1,234</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,712</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 16 | 4727 JUAN TABO BLVD. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8**

Built in 1975 to protect the far Northeast Heights, Fire Station 16 has a large response area of 10.5 square miles. It includes the recreational trails and open space of the Sandia Mountains Foothills; high-density apartment populations; and the Northeast Heights neighborhoods of Glenwood Hills and High Desert. Station 16 is home to six firefighters per shift who staff Engine 16, Rescue 16, and Brush 16. The City of Albuquerque has one of the most ambitious Open Space programs in the Southwest. Since 1969, Albuquerque has acquired over 24,000 acres of Open Space land, and manages another 4,000 acres – much of it within the Sandia Mountains foothills. As part of the Department's Wildland Task Force, Station 16's fire crews have specialized training to cross-staff Brush 16 to address wildland fires in the Open Space.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**JUSTIN  
MESCH**



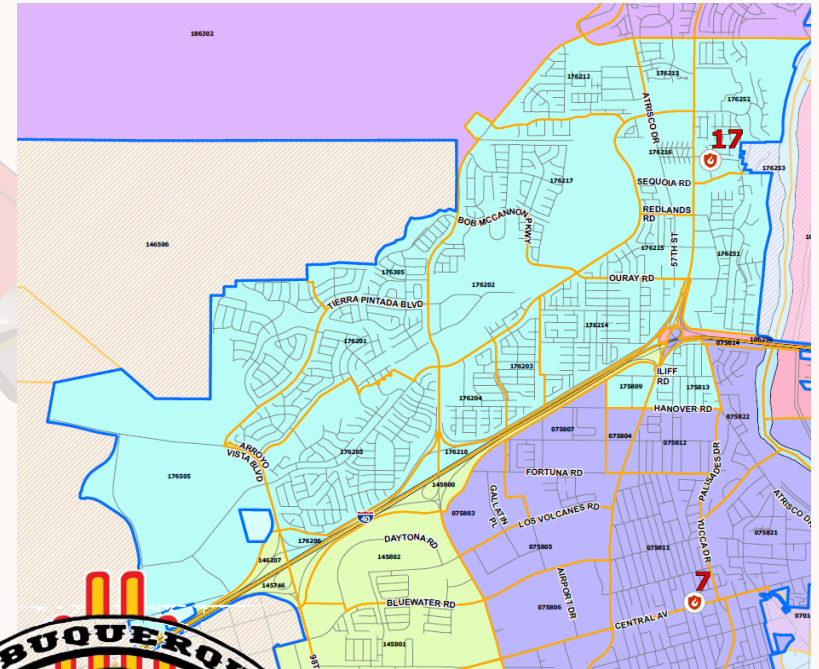
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 16</b>	<b>3,074</b>
<b>RESCUE 16</b>	<b>3,163</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,237</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 17 | 3630 YUCCA DR. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

Station 17 was built in 1976 and protects the City's West Side with a 8.6 square mile response area. This area includes the high motor traffic of Coors Boulevard and the Interstate 40 interchange, high-density apartment populations, busy retail occupancies, and the residential West Side neighborhoods of Ladera and Laurelwood. It is also first-due to the west side of the Rio Grande bosque. Another of the Department's multiple houses, Station 17 is home to ten firefighters per shift, staffing Engine 17, Ladder 17, Rescue 17, and Battalion Chief 4. The station is part of the Department's Wildland Task Force and crews stationed there have specialized training to cross-staff Wildland Engine 317 to address wildland incidents in the bosque or on the West Side Open Space.



### STATION CAPTAINS



DAVID CASTILLO



ADAM GUTIERREZ



CHRISTOPHER OTERO



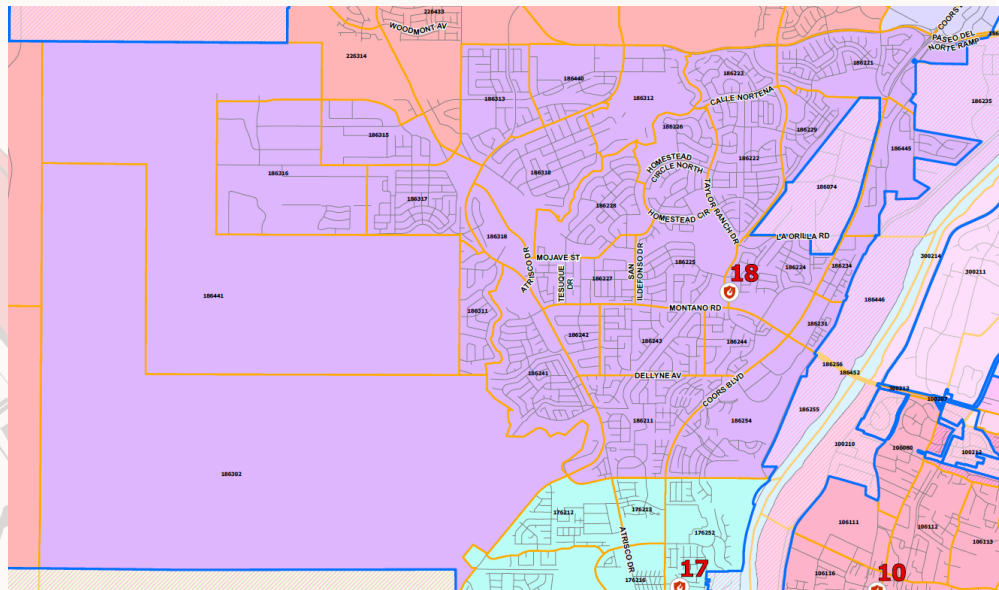
### 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 17</b>	<b>2,854</b>
<b>RESCUE 17</b>	<b>2,519</b>
<b>LADDER 17</b>	<b>954</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,327</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 18 | 6100 TAYLOR RANCH RD. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

Although Station 18 has a sprawling response area of 21.7 square miles, it remains one of the Department's quieter stations. Built in 1983 to protect the always growing west side of the city, the station is first-due to the retail establishment along Coors Boulevard, the quiet neighborhoods in Taylor Ranch, and the west side of the Rio Grande bosque. Station 18 is home to six firefighters per shift who staff Engine 18 and Rescue 18.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**MAX  
HEYMAN**

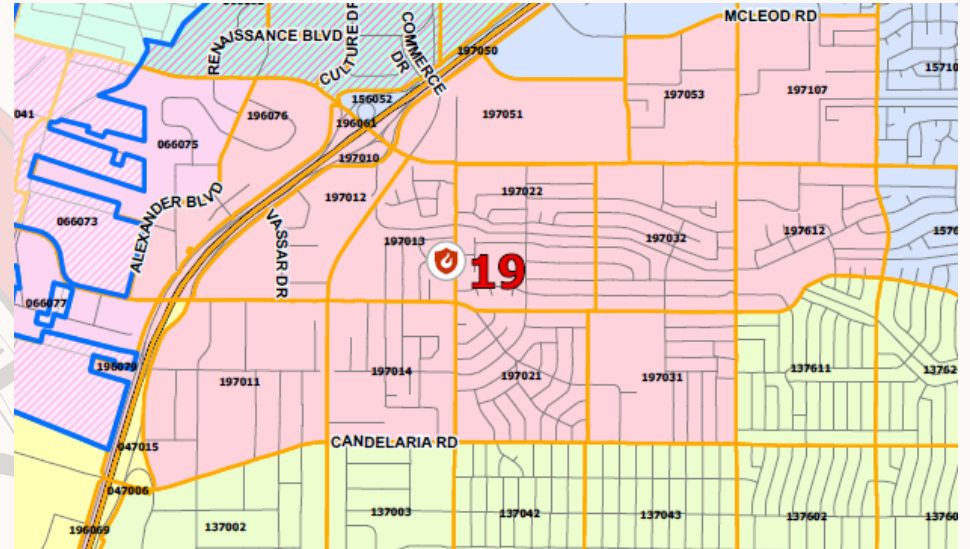
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 18</b>	<b>1,756</b>
<b>RESCUE 18</b>	<b>1,766</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,522</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 19 | 3520 SAN ANDRES AVE. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

Serving Albuquerque's Mid-Heights since 1994, Station 19 has a diverse response area of 4.6 square miles. Included are the high-density apartment populations along west Montgomery Boulevard, and the industrial parks of west Comanche Boulevard. Station 19 is home to seven firefighters per shift who staff Engine 19, Rescue 19, and the Department's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Quality Assurance Officer, known as Unit 78. Unit 78 is the Department paramedic supervisor. The designation comes from the police 10 Code, "10-78" which means "send ambulance". In 2017, Unit 78 responded to 2,293 emergency dispatches, placing it in the top five busiest Paramedic responses in the Department.



## STATION CAPTAIN



**CHRISTOPHER  
SOTELO**



## 2019 RESPONSES

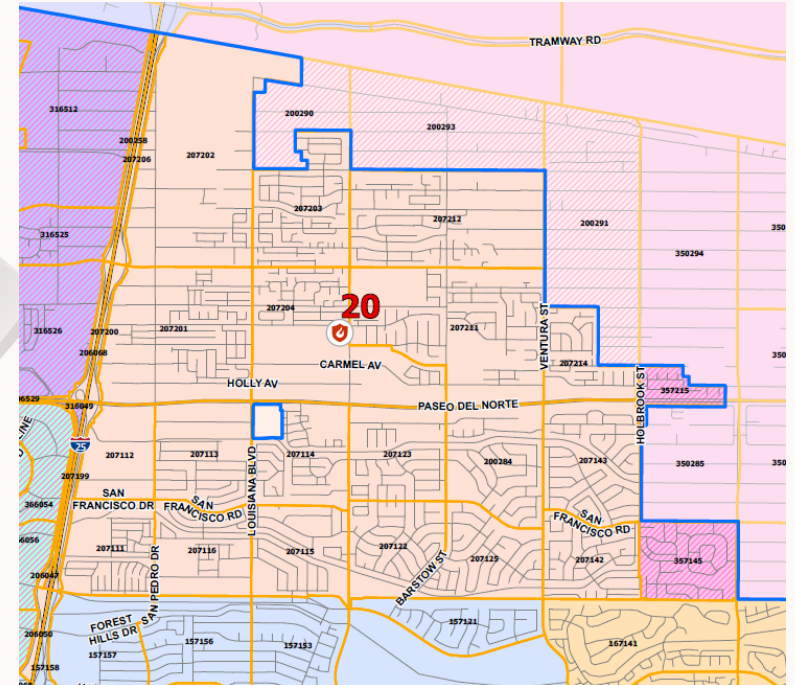
<b>ENGINE 19</b>	<b>3,764</b>
<b>RESCUE 19</b>	<b>3,276</b>
<b>QA 78</b>	<b>2,064</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,104</b>



# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

**STATION 20 | 7520 CORONA AVE. NE | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

*Built in 2002, Station 20 protects North Albuquerque, and has a response area of 11.1 square miles, including the quiet neighborhoods of the far Northeast Heights and North Albuquerque Acres; the busy retail establishments of Paseo del Norte; and the north Interstate 25 Corridor. Station 20 is home to seven firefighters per shift who staff Engine 20, Rescue 20 and Battalion Chief 3. Station 20 shares its home with the Albuquerque Police Department's Traffic Division. A memorial for the 42 AFR Firefighters who responded to the Pentagon after the terrorist attacks of 9/11/2001 is on the east side of the station property.*



## STATION CAPTAIN



**RICHARD  
CORDOVA**

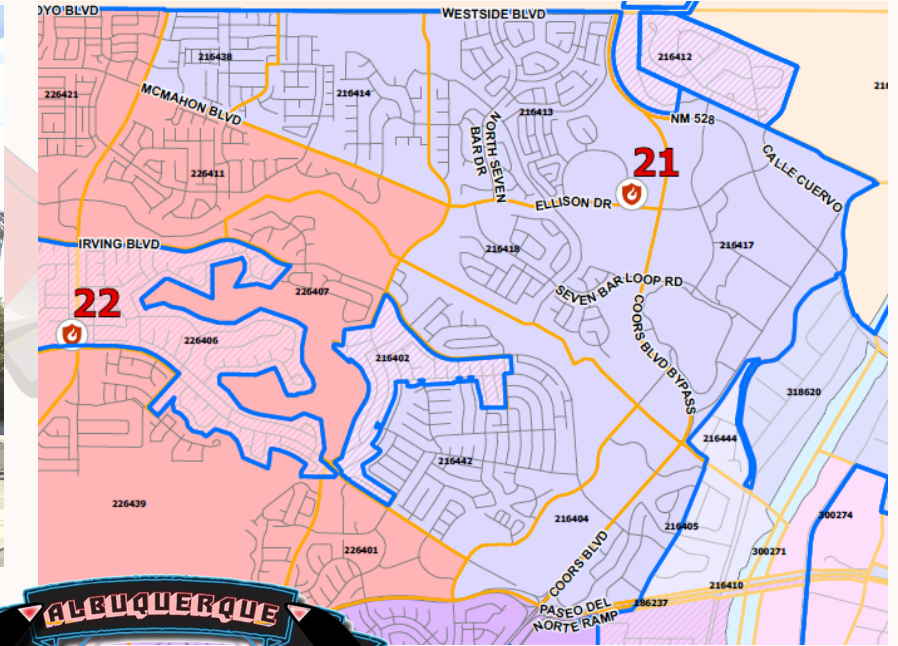
## 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 20</b>	<b>2,464</b>
<b>RESCUE 20</b>	<b>2,579</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,043</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 21 | 10400 CIBOLA LOOP NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Station 21 was built in 2005 to protect the City's Far Northwest Mesa. Its 6.8 square mile response area includes the large Cottonwood Mall and other retail establishments along Coors Boulevard; numerous apartment complexes; and the neighborhoods of Seven Bar Ranch and Cottonwood Heights. Another of the Department's multiple houses, Station 21 houses nine firefighters per shift and Engine 21, Ladder 21, and Rescue 21. Ladder 21 is another of the Department's two platform ladders. Constructed in tandem with the new Fire Station 5, the two stations share similar designs and floor plans. Station 21 is easily recognizable by the towering steel sculpture, "Convolved Ambiguity," which was installed there in 2009.



### STATION CAPTAINS



CARLOS MONTOYA



JASON PAIZ



MATTHEW WEINSTEIN



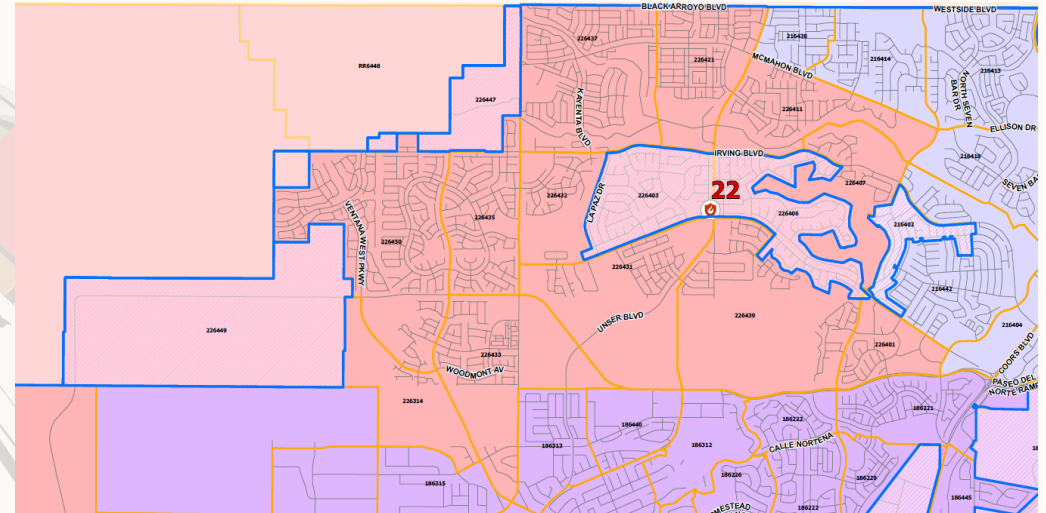
### 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 21</b>	<b>2,049</b>
<b>RESCUE 21</b>	<b>1,867</b>
<b>LADDER 21</b>	<b>512</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,428</b>

# FIRE STATION INFORMATION

## STATION 22 | 10005 LYONS BLVD. NW | CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Acquired from the Bernalillo County Fire Department in 2015, Station 22 has the distinction of having the largest response area in the city. Its 29.5 square miles covers the Far West Mesa, Double Eagle II Airport, and the Ventana Ranch and Paradise Hills neighborhoods. Station 22 is home to six firefighters per shift who staff Engine 22 and Rescue 22. It is also part of the Department's Wildland Task Force, with first-due responsibilities to the West Mesa Open Space. The station underwent a major renovation in 2016 – both to the interior and exterior – one which has attracted significant and positive appreciation and support from its neighbors.



### STATION CAPTAIN



**ANTHONY  
JUSTINIANO**



### 2019 RESPONSES

<b>ENGINE 22</b>	<b>2,049</b>
<b>RESCUE 22</b>	<b>2,174</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,223</b>

# REGIONAL RESPONSE PARTNERS

Within the fire service, the notion of mutual aid is one in which formal agreements are made that allow emergency services to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. This is often the case when the needs of an emergency incident exceed the capability of local resources, such as at a multiple-alarm fire or large-scale disaster. Mutual aid may be requested when an emergency occurs, or it may be a standing agreement and a continuing basis.

Automatic aid agreements ensure that resources are dispatched from the nearest fire station, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries. Inter-agency agreements are those cooperative compacts between government agencies and other organizations, designed to promote cooperation for the mutual benefit of all partner agencies. AFR is proud to maintain agreements with our regional response partners.

## RESPONSE CATAGORIES

### **AUTOMATIC AID PARTNER**

- Bernalillo County Fire Department

### **CONTRACTED TRANSPORT AGENCY**

- Albuquerque Ambulance Service

### **MUTIAL AID PARNERS**

- Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council
- Kirtland Air Force Base Fire Department
- Los Lunas Fire Department
- Rio Rancho Fire Rescue
- Sandoval County Fire Department
- Santa Fe Fire Department
- Village of Corrales Fire Department
- Village of Tijeras Fire & Rescue

### **INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS**

- Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Authority
- Albuquerque Job Corps
- Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority–Ditch Safety Program
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Interstate Mutual Aid System
- Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
- National Nuclear Security Administration–Joint Information Center
- New Mexico Army National Guard–Helicopter Firefighting Program
- New Mexico Department of Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources–Forestry Division
- New Mexico State Fire Marshal’s Office
- University of New Mexico
- US Department of Energy–Office of Secure Transportation
- US Department of Interior–Petroglyph National Monument
- US Department of Veterans Affairs
- US Forest Service–Cibola National Forest



# ALBUQUERQUE AREA FIRE FIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 244



Strength through united action, guided by intelligence, is the hallmark of trade union organization. Believing such unity essential for the mutual protection and advancement of the interests and general welfare of fire fighters everywhere, Local 244 has the following objectives: to organize firer fighters; to secure just compensation for their services and equitable settlement of their grievances; to promote as safe and healthy working environment for fire fighters as is possible through modern technology; to promote the establishment of just and reasonable working conditions; to place members on a higher plane of skill and efficiency; to promote harmonious relations between fire fighters and our employer; to encourage application to our Local; to promote the research and treatment of burns and job-related health problems common to fire fighters; to promote sick and death benefits for fire fighters; to encourage the establishment of schools of instruction for imparting knowledge of modern and improved methods of fire fighting, prevention, EMS, and rescue technology; and to cultivate friendship and fellowship among our members.

## BROADENING THE LABOR MOVEMENT

In 2019, IAFF Local 244 made it a priority to strengthen our relationships with other labor organizations within NM. Alongside local unions such as AFT, SMART, IBEW, TEAMSTERS, IATSE, UA Local 412 Plumbers and Pipefitters and AFSCME, we now have an active seat on the Executive Board of the NM Federation of Labor. We attended the NM Federation of Labor's Annual Convention and Labor Day Picnic, in which many local leaders and state representatives were present to show their support of the labor movement.

In January, members who attended the Affiliate Leadership Training in Los Angeles had the privilege to march with hundreds of other firefighters in support of the LA teacher's strike. As a result, UTLA secured a contract that included fair wages, decreased class sizes, and the addition of more councilors, librarians, and nurses to school staff. This exemplifies the need for solidarity between labor organizations in order to protect our values and rights as workers.

## LEGISLATIVE WORK

Perhaps the most triumphant success of 2019 was the addition of PTSD (HB324) to the Occupational Disease Act (Presumptive Disability). This legislation brings the mental health risks and welfare of firefighters to the forefront. It is estimated that approximately 7 to 37 percent of firefighters meet the criteria for diagnosis. This legislation not only acknowledges that firefighters are at a greater risk of suffering from PTSD but provides real resources and financial assistance to battle this mental health illness.



Other significant legislative work included the passing of HB 208 Hazardous Officer Statement Upon Court Order. This bill protects our member's privacy by not allowing any compelled statements to be released to the public unless mandated by a court order.

In addition, a joint effort between labor and management resulted in valuable capital outlay from the state. Approximately 5 million dollars in funding was secured in order to replace expired bunker gear, make improvements to our academy, and replace existing fire apparatus.

## IAFF FUNDRAISING

Every year IAFF 244 participates in a several fundraising events to support our communities and members. In 2019, IAFF 244 raised approximately 63,000 dollars for MDA during our annual Fill the Boot Campaign. We also supported Childhood Cancer Awareness and Breast Cancer Awareness through the sale of t-shirts which resulted in over 11,000 dollars being raised and donated to these causes. Our local Survivor's Fund benefited from over 8,000 being raised through various events and fundraisers including a raffle through a partnership with Chisolm Trail RV, the Annual Fire Muster and the 1st Annual Cornehole Tournament.



## RECOGNIZING OUR OWN

### Firefighter of the Year

Driver Dave Rettinger was selected as the firefighter of the year. He joined the fire department in 2005 with the 71st cadet class, and since 2006 has been a paramedic driver serving much of his time at station 16. Over the past 2 years, Driver Retienger has worked for The Public Information Office and he has done work that has greatly benefited this union, the department and the community. Every month Driver Rettinger helps put together the AFR monthly information report which has helped the department build strong relationships and connections with city leaders. Dave also spearheaded a project to raise money and awareness for the fight against children's cancer. For the month of September, David designed and sold the AFR Childhood Cancer Awareness t-shirts and was able to raise over \$7,000 for the UNM Pediatric Hematology And Oncology Program. IAFF 244 thanks Driver Rettinger for his service to his union and his department.

### Leadership Award

Lt. Jeff Ruscetti was awarded the Leadership Award for 2019 due to his consistent and open leadership style. He is recognized by his peers as a motivated, respectful, and caring individual with an intuitive desire to serve his community, as well as his fellow firefighters. He was nominated for his efforts in improving working conditions, aiding in rookie development, and improving EMS operations. He has shown leadership amongst his station peers by spearheading community outreach events such as Christmas shopping for children in need and hospital visits to UNMH's pediatric floor. Lt. Jeff Ruscetti is an invaluable member of AFR and IAFF Local 244 and a well-deserving recipient of the Leadership Award.

## MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

In 2019, IAFF 244 brought together members and their families through various events that foster camaraderie and brotherhood within the department as well as between firefighter families. The firefighters edged out the cops during the Battle of the Badges Soccer Cup where kids and loved ones cheered on their favorite firefighters. Over 400 kids and parents came dressed in their best costumes at the Annual Kids Halloween Party where there was great food, fun and prizes. There was no shortage of grandeur during the Annual IAFF Christmas Party. This annual event is attended by many of our members and their spouses and is a great way for firefighters to decompress and celebrate the year.



*“Labor never quits. We never give up the fight - no matter how tough the odds, no matter how long it takes.”*

*George Meany  
President AFL CIO (1955-1979)*

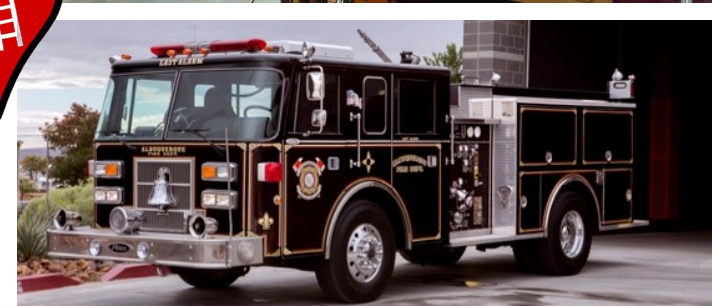
# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

The Albuquerque Fire Department Retirees' Association was established on June 9, 2000 - on the centennial anniversary of the AFR's founding - with the stated purpose to "preserve the rights, interests, and welfare of retired members of the Albuquerque Fire Department; to promote sociability and friendship; to keep retirees in touch with the Fire Department Family on a regular basis; and to create and maintain a cohesive, cordial, and warm feeling of friendship between all active members and retirees and their families."

The association promotes social events - such as an annual summer picnic and Christmas Party - and works at keeping retirees informed through both a phone tree and an e-mail network. A quarterly newsletter provides information about events of interest to association members, as well as historical material about AFR.

To accomplish these goals, the Association strives to maintain a working relationship with the Fire Chief, and the department's Executive Staff, in order to promote the success of the Association and its members. There are regularly-scheduled monthly meetings where retirees are able to get together and maintain the bonds of friendships, and the membership is kept informed through a quarterly association newsletter. In addition to maintaining a current roster of all retirees, the association also maintains a similar list of all deceased members, each of whom are remembered with a moment of silence at each meeting.

A key role of the association is its commemoration of deceased AFR retirees. This is achieved through the presentation of a Firefighter funeral - which honors the deceased for their service to the Department. Included in the ceremony is a special proclamation, as well as the presentation of the "Last Alarm" ceremony. During the service, the Association Honor Guard performs the "Last Alarm" ceremony, ringing the "Four Fives" on an antique fire engine bell - traditional within the American Fire Service. Since its inception, the association has recognized more than 152 AFR retirees with a Firefighter funeral service. The bell ceremony is also used in the annual Archdiocese of Santa Fe's "Blue Mass," and at the City of Albuquerque's annual September 11 memorial.



# FIELD OPERATIONS CENTER

The Field Operations Center is charged with staffing both Emergency Response and Support programs for the Department. It is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The FOC uses AFR staffing policies to assign appropriate personnel to each fire station and emergency response apparatus, each of which has minimum staffing levels. Many of the assignments have specialty training requirements. When firefighters call off sick, use vacation, or have trades, the FOC accommodates the moves to ensure that all staffing requirements are properly met.

The FOC uses a comprehensive staffing software application to assist with staffing and tracking all Department personnel. The application Telestaff allows for positive accountability and consistent staffing of the all Department employees, across three emergency response shifts and multiple support assignments. The FOC maintains a total of nine program-certified firefighters, three on each shift, with one assigned to the FOC and two in the Operations Division. An additional eight personnel, from the rank of Driver to Battalion Chief, are trained within the program. Monthly meetings are held to ensure consistency across the board, and to guarantee adherence to Staffing, Sick Leave, and Trade Time policies. A web version of the Department's staffing software was implemented to migrate from a central Telestaff server that allows for more versatile access. Daily "Summary Reports" are created so the Fire Chief and Executive Staff can be briefed to assist with the tracking of Leave and Overtime.



**KRONOS PRODUCTION 01**

Dashboard Calendar Roster My Info People Reports Bidding

Roster: 05/01/2018

05/01/2018

Tuesday, May 01, 2018

ALBUQUERQUE

BATTALION 1

Administration

STATION 01

(off roster)

( RESCUE DRIVER)	CHENEY, Justin M. (EMT P/HHM/HRT/HTR)	1133	VCU
( RESCUE LIEUTENANT)	SPAIN, Justin D. (EMT P/HRT/HTR)	1126	CTA
( CAPTAIN)	DEAL, Craig J. (HHM)	875	CTA

ASNY

STATION 01

ENGINE 01

LIEUTENANT	SEDILLO, Mike D. (WLD)	793	RP
DRIVER PDR	ZAMBRANO, Diego J. (Ty)	1062	VOO
	JARAMILLO, Eric P. (EMT P/FOC/HRO/HTR)	1353	RP
	ZAMBRANO, Diego J. (Ty)	1062	OTO
Fire Fighter	ADAME, David (EMT U/WLD)	1449	RP
Fire Fighter	ROMERO, Antonio R. (EMT P)	1459	RP

LADDER 01

CAPTAIN	MIRELES, Edward P. (WLD)	775	RP
DRIVER LDR	ORTEGA, Eduardo S. (Ty/WLD)	805	RP
Fire Fighter	QUINONES, Keith A. (Ty/WLD)	746	RP

RESCUE 01

RESCUE LIEUTENANT EMT P	FETTY, Levi T. (EMT U/EMT P/HHM/WLD)	772	RP
RESCUE DRIVER EMT P	VEZINGO, Christian M. (EMT P/Ty/WLD)	1019	RP

STATION 02

FOC

FOC Fire Fighter FOC	ORTEGA, Adan S. (FOC/HHM)	890	THU
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ENGINE 02

CAPTAIN	GALINDRO, Jason M.	1154	RP
DRIVER PDR	WATTS, Adam M. (EMT U/Ty)	1288	RP
Fire Fighter	GENTRY, Travis C.	1470	RP
Fire Fighter	CHALEUNPHONH, Douang	1302	RP

RESCUE 02

RESCUE LIEUTENANT EMT P	PEREZ, James M. (EMT P)	882	RP
RESCUE DRIVER EMT P	GARCIA, Leon A. (EMT P)	1420	RP

The Telestaff / Kronos program allows for employees to view assignments and enter requests for time off or trades.





# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The Albuquerque Fire Rescue Special Operations program – within the Emergency Operations Division- provides a wide array of specialized services to the Albuquerque community. The program encompasses the **Wildland Task Force**, the **Heavy Technical Rescue Program**, and the **Hazardous Materials Team**. Special Operations also provides the emergency services required for Special Events held within Albuquerque’s jurisdiction. Additionally, the program manager serves and the AFR liaison to various organizations across a number of jurisdictions and operational disciplines.

## PROGRAMS OVERSEEN

- **HYDRANT INSPECTION PROGRAM**
- **SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNING / OPERATIONS / EVENT ACTION PLAN (EAP) DEVELOPMENT**
- **INTER-AGENCY EXERCISE COORDINATION**
- **AFR LIAISON TO THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (ESF 4 FIRE, ESF 9 URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE AND ESF 10 HAZMAT)**
- **FIELD STAFFING**

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **EVENT ACTION PLANNING FOR 16 CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE SPONSORED EVENTS**
- **EVENT ACTION PLANNING AND OPERATIONS FOR THE 9 DAY ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA**
- **SAFETY/MEDICAL GROUP FOR THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES**
- **ASSIST THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WITH CITIES READINESS INITIATIVE CLOSED POD EXERCISE**
- **BLUE CARD INCIDENT COMMAND CERTIFICATION FOR AFR BATTALION CHIEFS**
- **IMPLEMENTATION OF TELESTAFF FOR VACATION BIDDING**
- **CONTINUED USE OF ARCGIS FOR THE AFR HYDRANT INSPECTION PROGRAM. IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MOBILE APPLICATION LED TO THE HIGHEST COMPLETION RATE TO DATE.**
- **MAINTAIN NIMS COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**



**JUSTIN STALEY**  
SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
BATTALION CHIEF



# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

The Hazardous Materials Response Program operates under a task force concept, consisting of 8 emergency response companies. Squad 1 and Squad 3 are the lead company of the task force, housed at Fire Stations 4 and 13. Each has a Captain and Driver assigned.

Firefighters assigned to the Hazardous Materials Task Force attended extensive training involving classroom sessions and practical scenarios. Each firefighter receives 24 hours of specialized rescue training annually. All training is OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 and/or NFPA 472 compliant. To operate at a Hazmat technician level, firefighters receive 120 hours of training.

The primary function of this company is to respond to all specialized hazardous materials incidents that occur within the City of Albuquerque and to neighboring communities within the metro area in the form of mutual aid response to include incident responses involving the releases or potential releases of hazardous materials that present a chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive or health hazard to the community.

In addition to the above listed incident types, the task force may also respond to Multiple Causality Incidents and assist with other agencies to include the FBI, 64<sup>th</sup> CST Army National Guard, and KAFB.



*The Hazardous materials program is part of the Special Operations Division and is currently supported by the Hazardous Materials Program Manager. Due to the specialized capabilities of the task force, there is a substantial training and logistical requirement that necessitates the need for a staff position for support during the normal work day with off hour opportunities to include nights and weekends.*



**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINED PERSONNEL:**

**135** TECHNICIAN LEVEL

**582** AWARENESS & OPERATIONS LEVEL

*All AFR Squads are equipped with hazardous materials equipment that include monitors for measuring dangerous gases and chemicals.*



## GRANTS

AFR purchased the FLIR all-purpose radionuclide identification device and a gas chromatographer utilizing grant funds. The monitors will increase the capabilities of the hazmat program when responding to hazardous events.



## TRAINING

- Chemistry of Hazardous Materials (October)
- Hazardous Materials Technician (April, December) – the number of AFR Hazmat Technician's increased from 118 to 135.
- Hazmat A&O (April) for FMO personnel as well as members of the 94<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class
- Hazmat personnel attended Baltimore Hazmat conference. Classes attended included Structural/Chemical Emergencies, Decon "What are we trying to accomplish?" and Structure Fire: "The New Hazmat Incident" etc.
- Assisted the Apparatus Spec Committee with designing new Hazmat Squads
- Week long Interoperability training exercise with divisions of APD, 64th CST, Rail Runner, State DOH, KAFB, UNMH
- FBI Radiation training exercise in conjunction with 64th CST, County fire, AFR EOC, and state fire marshals
- 2 day Andeavor table top training with County fire, County EOC, marathon oil with their personnel from across the country
- BNSF training with Jeff Hankins
- 2 personnel sent to Pueblo CO for rail car pressure training
- CAMEO Class given by LSU
- State DOH training for Station 13 and 4 all shifts
- Annual Post office training exercise with APD, State police, and 64th CST

# WILDLAND / URBAN INTERFACE FIREFIGHTING

In support of AFR's goal to deliver the highest caliber of emergency service to the Albuquerque community, our Department has trained and equipped all of our members to meet national wildfire qualification standards. Our Department provides suppression in our open space lands as well as our wildland urban interface areas around Albuquerque. These areas include over 30,000 acres in the Rio Grande Valley State Park, the Petroglyph National Monument, and all of the City's Open Space areas of the West Mesa and Sandia Foothills.

AFR's Wildland Division consists of five Wildland Stations that are strategically located around the City of Albuquerque to respond to wildfires. There are a total of 30 personnel on duty each day that have an advance level of training that will respond in specialized apparatus that is designed to fight wildfires. AFR has 5 Type-6 engines and 1 Type-3 engine. During critical periods of the fire season AFR implements Open Space Patrols which consists of AFR wildland resources patrolling the Foothills, Bosque and West Mesa. This is in an effort to respond to wildland fire dispatches quicker than usual by having crews in the area already wearing their wildland PPE and being in their specialized apparatus to suppress the fire in the early stages preventing it from becoming catastrophic.

AFR's Wildland Division works throughout the year with multiple agencies and communities to reduce the threat of wildfires. This is done by training our members, educating the public, reducing the fuel load and patrolling areas at risk.



## PUBLIC EDUCATION

In an effort to educate the public on wildfire safety, AFR began doing public outreach in 2014 with the IAFC Ready Set Go program. Each year AFR goes out to multiple HOA's and Neighborhood Associations and teaches homeowners how to prepare their home(s) against wildfires as well as how react in the event of a wildfire in the areas they live including evacuation plans.

## FIREFIGHTER EDUCATION

- 20 WLD personnel completed S133 – Look Up, Look Down, Look all Around
- 20 WLD personnel completed S290 Intermediate WLD Fire Behavior
- 12 WLD personnel completed WLD Engine Academy (S211 and PMS419)
- 12 WLD personnel completed Wildland Fire Chainsaws
- 1 BC Certification courses (WLD)
- 2 AFR Academy Classes - WLD FFT2 level – S130, S190, L180, IS 700, IS 800
- Wildfire awareness class for COA Open Space volunteers that patrol (50)
- 100 COA employees trained in wildfire preparedness and evacuations at the Bio Park and Botanical Gardens
- 6 WLD/HTR personnel UTV Operator certified

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2019 Station 22 was added as the fifth wildland station to AFR's Wildland Division. AFR was able to purchase our fifth Type – 6 engine with funding provided by City Councilor Cynthia Borrego.

AFR's Wildland Division proposed adding River Mile Marker signs to the river's edge throughout Albuquerque. The purpose of these signs is to provide location identifiers for anyone using the river in the ABQ metro area. These signs will help us identify the location of someone along the river in the event of an emergency. These signs span 20 miles along the river's edge from the Village of Corrales to Isleta. These signs will give individuals caught up in an emergency situation the ability to give their location to 911 Dispatchers so first responders can get to them quickly. This project was funded by City Councilor Ken Sanchez.

Throughout the year our Wildland Division provides fire suppression for all fireworks displays during Balloon Fiesta and Freedom 4<sup>th</sup>, Open Space Patrols, and additional staffing during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July due to an increase in wildfire activity.

In an effort to reduce the fuel load in the Bosque and make the fuel load to a point where it is manageable during wildfires, AFR's Wildland Division works with the City of Albuquerque's Open Space Division and New Mexico State Forestry to accomplish this. In 2019, working together we identified several areas and reduced the fuel load in approximately 40 acres within the ABQ Metro area. By reducing the fuel load it allows us to manage fires in the areas and it prevents fires from becoming extreme and unmanageable. It also allows us to create fuel breaks where



# DEPLOYMENTS

In 2019, personnel and equipment from the Wildland Division deployed to several wildland fires around the nation under the New Mexico State Forestry Resource Mobilization Plan and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

During the fire season in 2019 AFR's new Rapid Extraction Module (REM Team) was deployed 2 times. This resource is a four person module that is both wildland firefighting and rope rescue qualified. This resource is trained to rescue injured/down firefighters and consists of members from both our Wildland and HTR Divisions.

- Iron Works Fire – New Mexico**
- Elk Fire – New Mexico**
- Pine Lodge Fire – New Mexico**
- Elena Gallegos – New Mexico**
- Easy Fire - California**
- Maria Fire – California**
- 267 Fire – New Mexico**



**Task Force from NM sent to California. AFR provided a Task Force Leader – Lieutenant Fox, Type-3 engine – Lieutenant Cruz, Driver De La Torre, Firefighter Kamm and Adams Type-6 engine – Lieutenant Mee, Lieutenant Korpan and Driver Moore.**

# HEAVY TECHNICAL RESCUE

The Heavy Technical Rescue program is one of the three specialty divisions within the Special Operations Division and is currently supported by the HTR program manager. Due to the specialized capabilities of the task force, there is a substantial training and logistical requirement that necessitates the need for a staff position for support during the normal work day with off hour opportunities to include nights and weekends.

The Heavy Technical Rescue program operates under a task force concept, consisting of 3 emergency response companies. Squad 2 is the lead company of the task force, housed at Fire Station 3, along with Engine 3 and Rescue 3.

Firefighters assigned to the HTR task force attends extensive training involving classroom sessions and practical scenarios. Each firefighter receives over 200 hours of specialized rescue training. All training is OSHA and/or NFPA compliant.

*The primary function of this company is to respond to all specialized rescue incidents that occur within the City of Albuquerque and to neighboring communities within the metro area in the form of mutual aid response.*

## HTR TRAINED PERSONNEL

49 TECHNICIAN LEVEL

47 OPERATIONS LEVEL



## TYPES OF HEAVY TECHNICAL RESPONSE

**Confined Space Rescue**- rescue from vessels, tanks, vents, sewer lines and similar industrial processes and usually involves a hazardous material and/or atmosphere

**Rope Rescue** – rescue of persons from an elevated natural or man-made location that cannot self-rescue.

**Structural Collapse** –rescue of persons from a building that has collapsed as a result of a passenger vehicle or truck collision, a natural gas explosion or an act of terrorism.

**Trench Collapse** - rescuing a worker from a collapsed trench. The victim can be completely or partially buried by soil.

**Swift Water Rescue** – rescue/recovery of persons trapped in rivers and ditches.

**Flood Channel Rescue** - most often involves rescuing a person/child, which has entered a flood channel/arroyo during flood conditions and cannot self-rescue.

**Vehicle Extrication** - most often involves rescuing persons from a vehicle accident whereas the victim is pinned or trapped by crushed metal.

**Machinery Extrication** - most often involves rescuing a worker who is caught, trapped or pinned by a machine or industrial process.

**Elevator Rescue** - most often involves rescuing persons from a stalled elevator.

**Multiple Causality Incidents**

**All commercial, high-rise, high occupancy, and high life risk structure fires**

**Firefighter Rescue/Rapid Intervention Team**

# OPERATIONS

- AFR Liaison to the Office of Emergency Management (ESF 9 Search and Rescue)
- REM Team organization and implementation with Wildland Task Force
- Surface Water Rescues during high spring runoff conditions on the Rio Grande River
- Senior Games Support Operations
- Summerfest Operations
- Wilderness Search and Rescue events in the Sandia foothills and CABQ Open Space areas
- State Fair Emergency Preparedness
- Balloon Fiesta Preparedness and Operations

# TRAINING

- Rope and Confined Space Rescue Technician
- Trench Rescue Technician
- Paramedic Vehicle Extrication
- BCSO - Metro Air Support Unit Operations
- Post Fire Gross Decontamination to all personnel
- Lateral Cadet Class Vehicle Extrication
- Flood Channel Rescue initial training and refreshers
- EMS Fellows Technical Rescue Operations
- Cadet Vehicle Extrication
- ABCWUA Confined Space Safety and Awareness
- Structure Collapse Rescue Operations



# COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Albuquerque Fire Rescue is constantly striving to find solutions for increasing safety and public awareness that results in a safer city for our citizens and firefighters. AFR offers educational resources and training for people of every age and we continue to find new innovative programs that will succeed in our mission to provide quality risk reduction. Our most utilized public engagement opportunities are fire station tours and show-and-tell events where our firefighters can demonstrate and discuss hazard safety. Our risk reduction programs list will evolve as we determine which ones are working well, changing what is not working well or adding new programs.

## 2019 RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS

- All-Hazards Risk Assessment
- Community Involvement Program/ AFR Station Tour
- Public Information Office
- LIFESAVER Training
- CNM Emergency Medical Technician-Basic Course
- Career Enrichment Center (APS) EMT-Basic Course
- Hands Only CPR
- HEART Home Engagement and Alternative Response Team
- Fall Prevention Program
- Harm Reduction
- Ready! Set! Go! Preparing for Wildfire
- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Refresher
- Confined Space Awareness
- Fall Protection Awareness
- Household Hazardous Products and Hazardous Waste
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Fire Warden and Evacuation Training
- Senior Citizen Fire Safety
- Youth Fire Prevention
- Pre K Fire Prevention, Story Time
- General Fire Safety and Risk Reduction
- CERT (Citizen Emergency Response Team) Fire Extinguisher
- Active Shooter Training (Run,Hide,Fight)
- See Something, Say Something/ Suspicious Activity Reporting



**MARTIN SALAZAR**  
CRR & RECRUITMENT  
CAPTAIN



# 2019 CRR PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## **Digital Media**

- App Development for thefiredepartmentapp.com
- Web design Template

## **Meetings**

- CABQ Career Fair planning team
- 911/Safety fair planning
- Haunted House
- LEPC Public Safety Chair
- Balloon Fiesta
- Guardian Games Meeting
- Battle of The Badges Meeting
- Twinkle Light Parade
- GIS App Development

## **Recruitment**

- El Paseo TX
- Las Cruces NM
- Santa Fe NM
- Austin TX
- Mesa AZ area
  - \* Glendale CC Career Fair
  - \* Presented to classes: 5 EMT B, 3 Paramedic, 1 Police Science
  - \* Mesa CC 2 EMT B classes
- NM United Soccer; 8 games
- State Fair Recruitment table
- Water Authority Confined Space w/ Recruitment training
- CABQ Career Fair
- NM United Soccer AFR vs APD
- CEC Presentation 56 students
- Balloon Fiesta 14 events
- CNM overview 87 students
- Hand Shake
- New "Hiring in 2020
- NM Isotopes 10 Games including Science Night
- Guardian Games recruitment table 2 days
- UNM Hero's Football Recruit Table

- CEC EMT Proctor
- Hand Shake 11 Colleges
  - \* "Open enrollment January 6 –February 29 2020"
- New Recruitment Video Filmed; 42 Seconds

## **Community Risk Reduction**

- Department of Municipal Development Mock Snow Day
- Homicide Outreach; 38 city wide in 2019
- Lung Force walk Fire Prevention Inflatable
- Guardian Games Fire prevention inflatable
- INTEL Safety Fair
- Boy Scout troop With BCFD Fire Prevention Inflatable

## **Risk Assessments**

- \* 63 assessments completed
- \* 37,547 assessed including schools, city and private facilities
- \* 215 pending assessments.

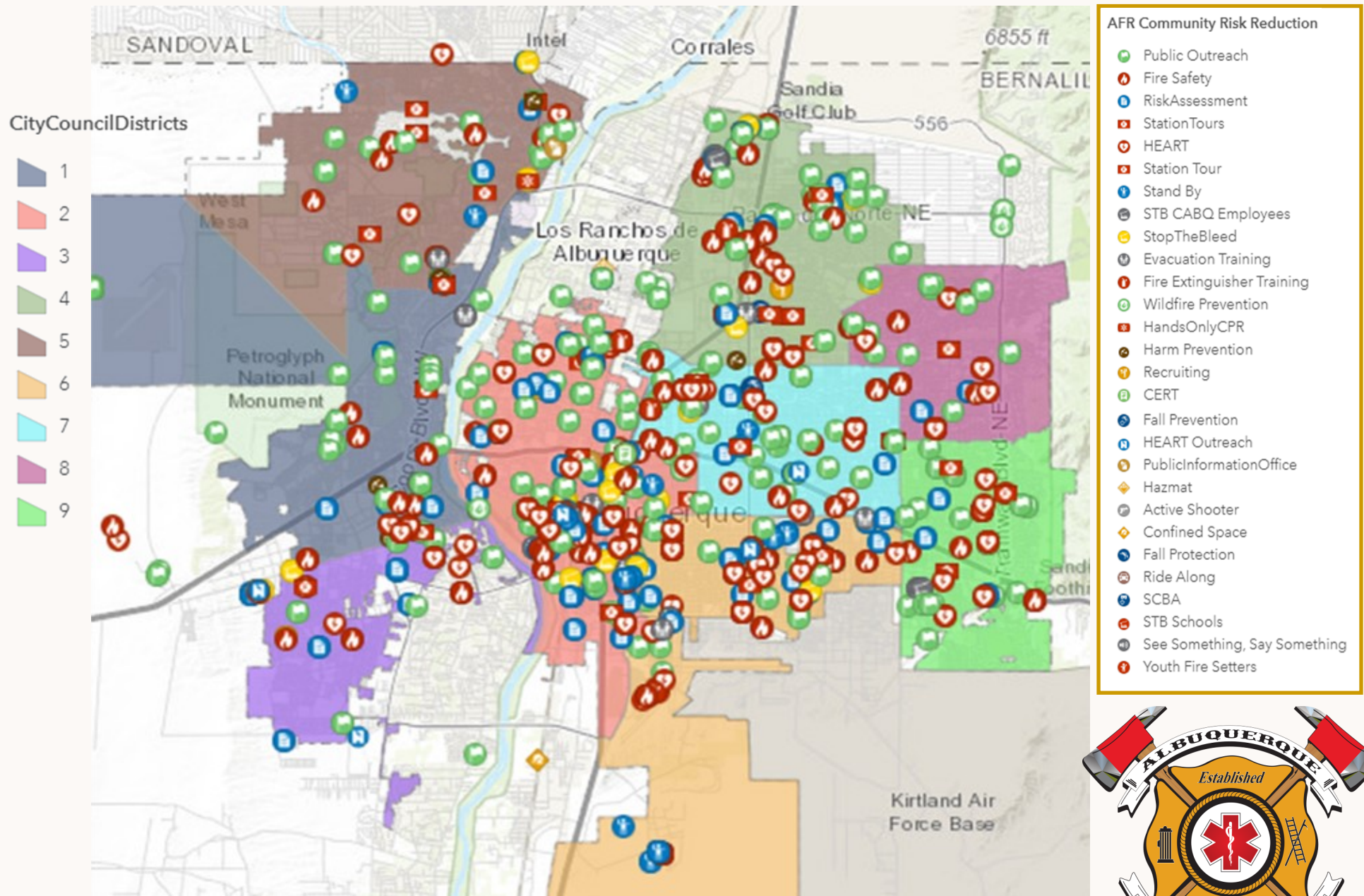
## **Lifesaver**

- \* 51 trainings
- \* 2,160 trained to include COA employees and civilians
- \* Institutionalized Lifesaver Training for all current and future City employees

## **Grants**

- \* Finalized K9 grant to include storage container and wash station
- \* Awarded \$153,000 from the State Homeland Security Grant Program; \$35,000 to replace Ballistic Protective Equipment and \$118,000 to update CV1
- Appointed to One ABQ Kids Cabinet-Public Safety Group
- Appointed to the COA Grants Committee
- Appointed to State School Safety Working Group.
- Appointed to the ABQ School Threat Working Group
- NM Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center Working Group
  - \* National Curriculum Revision for School Response to Bomb Threats
- Received funding for new Driver position

# 2019 CRR PROGRAM EVENTS



# PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

The Public Affairs Office consists of the Deputy Chief of Human Resources, Captain of Community Risk Reduction/Recruitment, Lieutenant Public Information Officer, and two support members at the rank of Driver. This division is responsible for representing the Albuquerque Fire Rescue to the media and public through several distinct methods and helping to increase public safety through education and outreach. The PAO is responsible for handling media requests and press conferences, interviews, significant event updates, facilitating community outreach through multiple avenues, helping to coordinate AFR graduation and promotional ceremonies, managing social media accounts and publishes a monthly informational report that highlights significant calls and special events.

## 2019 PROJECTS

- **Posted/ highlighted 16 firefighters for Faces of AFR**
- **Held Push-In Ceremonies for 11 Fire Apparatus**
- **Highlighted the retirement of 15 firefighters**
- **Assisted with the delivery of Xmas Gifts to families in need**
- **Arranged and delivered meals to the Homeless Shelter**
- **Featured in EMS World Magazine for ECMO**
- **Twinkle Light Parade- Placing 1<sup>st</sup> in Government Category**
- **Guardian Games with Special Olympics and APD**
- **Socktober with Locker 505**
- **Real Men Wear Pink Campaign with Breast Cancer Awareness**
- **Children's Cancer Awareness Campaign. Recognized by City Council**
- **Heroes Halloween**
- **Hosted the 9/11 Ceremony following Stair Climb at Civic Plaza with Gov, Mayor, City Councilors**
- **Battle Of The Badges Blood Drive**
- **First Responders Cup (Soccer Game with APD)**
- **Courage Classic Run for Pediatric Oncology**
- **Fight For Air Climb**
- **Cadet Graduation for 93<sup>rd</sup> and 94<sup>th</sup>**
- **Promotional and Recognition Ceremonies in March and August**



## 2019 PRESS CONFERENCES

- **Heart Program**
- **9/11 Ceremony at Station 20 with Mayor Keller and City Council**
- **LIFESAVER Training**
- **Ground Breaking for Fire Station 9**
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> Safety**
- **PTSD Bill Signing with Governor**
- **Station 22 Designated as Wildland Station**
- **Increase Call Volume with APD and Mayor's Office**
- **ECMO with UNMH**



# SAFETY DIVISION

With an effort to promote and provide for health and safety for all uniformed AFR firefighters, the Safety Division operates in an internal risk management capacity. The Safety Division strives to ensure that safety remains a priority as we deliver emergency services and an all-hazards response capability to the community. The office is charged with the coordination and oversight of numerous safety related responsibilities to include O.S.H.A. compliance with medical evaluations, health, and safety testing. We additionally facilitate and conduct many other safety-related services.

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- O.S.H.A. and HazMat physicals
- Yearly Tuberculosis testing
- Yearly S.C.B.A. fit testing
- Yearly hose, ground ladder, and aerial ladder testing
- Responding to occupational injuries and exposures to on-duty personnel
- Safety program development and policy review
- Issuance of safety notices and bulletins
- In conjunction with the AFD Health and Safety Committee investigate accidents or hazards, and make recommendations to the Fire Chief
- VO2 Max Fitness Evaluation
- Peer Fitness Trainers Program

Under the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Health and Safety Committee is charged with several important responsibilities to maintain safe working conditions and industrial health protection for the employees using the appropriate Federal, State, or City Laws. As the Chair of the Health and Safety Committee the Health and Safety Officer facilitates the following services to the Albuquerque Fire Department:

- To oversee review and recommend testing of equipment and PPE as it relates to occupational health and safety.
- Review of accidents or injuries and submitting the findings of all motor vehicle accidents to the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief of Operations.
- Conduct safety surveys and safety training programs as approved by the Fire Chief.
- Recommend safety precautions to the Fire Chief as necessary in any area viewed as endangering uniformed firefighters.
- Review injuries or accidents as directed by the fire department Occupational Safety Officer.
- Provide for yearly training on matters of safety during suppression refresher.



**CRAIG DEAL**  
SAFETY DIVISION  
CAPTAIN



**VEHICLE ACCIDENTS**

**59**



**EXPOSURES**

**102**



**FIREFIGHTER PHYSICALS**

**642**



**FIREFIGHTER INJURIES**

**80**

# FISCAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Fiscal Management program provides a full-range of accounting, budgeting, and fiscal management services to the Department. In addition, the program staff represents the Department in all financial matters with city, state, and federal financial agencies; and develops and coordinates grant applications, contracts, City Council resolutions, executive communications, and adherence to reporting requirements. Program staff provides departmental integration of grants and contracts with various administrative agencies, and originated financial reports for both internal and external uses. In addition, they also work with department program managers to control internal expenditures, provide special audits, and the research and development of technical documents and surveys. Most importantly, the fiscal program coordinates compliance with all city, state, and federal regulations, such as the State Purchasing Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

## **BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING**

The fiscal staff assists the Chief's Executive staff in the preparation and proposal of the Department budget to the Mayor, the City's Office of Management and Budget, and the Albuquerque City Council. Accounting services to the Department include the processing of payroll; purchase orders; fixed asset accounting; accounts payable and receivable; the monitoring of, and adjustment to, various budgeted accounts; and the administration of reimbursement funds. Fiscal staff also tracks financial data, and ensures that the Department stays within its allocated budget.

## **TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS**

The management of trust and agency funds is another function of the Fiscal program. The program supports several labor union and management pay directives, such as Tuition Assistance and Academic Incentive pay, the local Emergency Planning Committee, all financial activities that occur during an activation of the Emergency Operations Center, reimbursement forms processing, and financial reports for those deployments of AFR personnel during extra-jurisdictional incidents.

## **RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

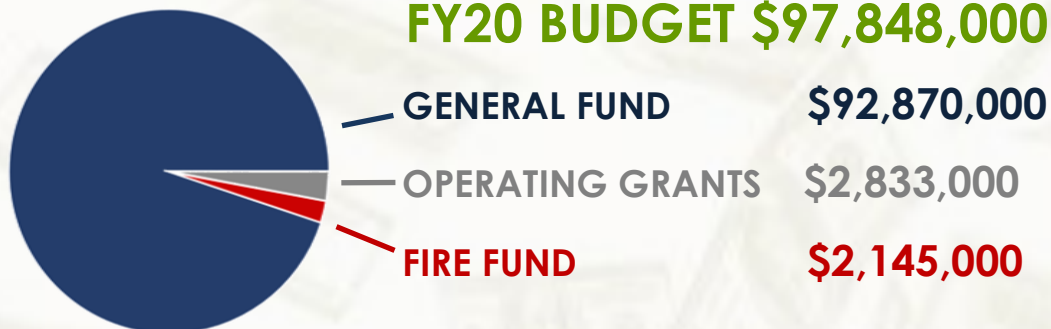
As records custodians for the Department, the fiscal program maintains university transcript records for the tuition assistance and academic incentive pay program, and coordinates the appropriate tuition reimbursement and incentive pay - based on those records. Other records management functions include the gathering of information related to claims for damages filed by and against the department.



**DR. AMANDA VIGIL, DBA  
FISCAL MANAGER**



## **FY20 BUDGET \$97,848,000**



# AFR FY20 BUDGET

*The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget was approved by City Council and signed by the Mayor in May of 2019. This new budget started on July 1, 2019 on goes until June 30, 2020. The following details how this new budget will affect our department.*

## **FIREFIGHTER PAY & BENEFITS INCREASE**

In FY/20 Firefighters will receive an additional 3% raise for all bargaining unit members. For those who qualify, Paramedic Assignment pay will increase from 8% to 9.5%. Tuition assistance increased from \$50,000 in FY/19 to \$75,000 in FY/20. The in-house Membership Assistance Program increased from \$13,500 per fiscal quarter in FY/19 to \$17,000 per fiscal quarter in FY/20.

## **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM)**

In FY/19 OEM was located under APD. However, in FY/20 OEM has now moved under AFR. While the Director of OEM will still directly report to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), all fiscal and structural responsibilities will be managed by AFR. Both OEM and AFR will share a single civilian Grants manager position.

## **NEW POSITIONS ADDED**

In 2019 we received a total of 36 newly funded positions in the department. With the FY/20 Budget we received 24 new positions. The department's salary savings moved from 1% to 0%, which allows us to fill every funded positions without having to leave any vacancies. With the approval of our Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Services (SAFER) Grant we also received an additional 12 Firefighter positions. Including our civilian employees, our total funded positions increased from 730 at the start of 2019 to 766 at the end of 2019.

### **New Uniform Firefighter Positions**

(2) Captains  
(2) Paramedic Lieutenants  
(1) Lieutenant  
(8) Drivers  
(12) Firefighters  
25 Total uniform

### **New Civilian Employees**

(6) Fleet positions  
(1) HEART Carpenter position  
(4) Office of Emergency Management  
11 Total civilians

## **INCREASED OVERTIME APPROPRIATION**

We requested an increase in overtime funding for off duty EMT-I & Paramedic Continuing Education and Technical Rescue training. In addition to the overtime increase of \$157,500, we received a technical adjustment in overtime that was not calculated in prior years that totaled \$567,441.

## **NEW DIVISION! – ADAPT**

Throughout the City of Albuquerque, there are a number of residential and commercial structures that are deemed nuisance properties. The ADAPT (**Abandoned & Dilapidated Abatement Property Team**) Program works with multiple City entities to help enforce Albuquerque Code Ordinances such as the nuisance abatement and drug free zone, uniform housing code, and the comprehensive zoning code. This program is designed to help limit or eliminate the public nuisance aspect of a property or environment that has been deemed a “hot spot” for criminal activity, based off of the ADAPT points matrix. This is achieved by working with and educating the owner; if no owner is associated with the property, then by taking control of the area, resolving the public nuisance, and ultimately securing the property. ADAPT will be part of the Albuquerque Fire Rescue Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) under the direction of the Fire Marshal, Deputy Chief Gene Gallegos. The program will be managed by an AFR Captain and will include one Lieutenant and two Drivers.

## **PLANS CHECKING DIVISION EXPANSION**

AFR added one new Captain and four new Driver positions to this division in FY/20. The Albuquerque Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) Plans Checking Division reviews over 3,500 plans a year and now has a staff of twelve firefighters and one administrative assistant.

# AFR FY20 BUDGET

## **NEW DIVISION! - PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE (PAO)**

AFR has never had a division that was dedicated to public affairs and community risk reduction. However, in 2019 we shifted the duties of the vacant Emergency Management Captain position to the Special Operations Battalion Chief enabling us to dedicate this Captain position to manage the AFR Public Affairs Office. This new division is responsible for recruitment, community risk reduction programs, risk assessments and the public information officer position. AFR requested and received one new Lieutenant and two new Drivers positions for this division in FY/20.

## **H.E.A.R.T. FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM**

Home Engagement and Alternative Response Team (HEART) works with patients who have a history of repeat utilization of 911 EMS. The team evaluates the client's situation and gathers information to establish a plan of action to navigate the appropriate system for the client including healthcare, financial assistance and housing. AFR has collaborated with the Department of Senior Affairs (DSA) to address the fall prevention in the City of Albuquerque by adding one Lieutenant and one civilian Carpenter position in FY/20.

AFR responded to 8,757 falls in 2018. The HEART team started reaching out to patients that frequently call 911 in July 2018. Since the program began, the team has assisted over 80 community members to reduce their 911 calls by 59%. The HEART team is able to quickly identify patients that need assistance and help link them to appropriate services. Over 73% of our fall patients are over 60 years in age. Senior Affairs does a tremendous job working with seniors to help with home modifications that make their homes safer and prevent falls. However, many of these programs are tied to grant funding making it difficult to address emergent needs that many of these patients have that are causing them to fall. Many times, seniors have to wait several months to have something as simple as a grab bar installed in their home. Both DSA and AFR recognize that a collaboration between the two departments will help address the emergent needs of the seniors.

Falls are one of the top five 911 call types that AFR responds to, and many of these are preventable with proper education, risk reduction, and simple home modifications. With this collaboration, AFR will staff one community paramedic Lieutenant and one Carpenter. These staff members will shadow the case managers and carpenters employed by Senior Affairs to learn the intricacies of the fall prevention program they offer. With this partnership, the AFR HEART team member will be able to outreach to seniors that are suffering recent falls resulting in a 911 call, as well as seniors that are frequently falling and calling 911. The carpenter will make quick modifications to the home to make it safer for the senior. The hope is that through this collaboration both Senior Affairs and AFR can outreach to seniors quickly and efficiently to address their needs and prevent serious injuries. While fall prevention will be the main focus for both of these positions, they will also be capable of assisting in other areas. The HEART Lieutenant can also take on additional cases with the regular program and the construction worker can assist the other three CIP staff as they work to maintain the 22 fire stations and other AFR facilities.

## **ACCREDITATION PROCESS**

In June of 2018, Albuquerque Fire Rescue renewed our registered agency status with the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). CPSE is a nonprofit organization that promotes the continuous quality improvement of fire and emergency service agencies that serve communities worldwide by providing training and career resource information. Albuquerque Fire Rescue is currently an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class 1 rated fire department. Less than 200 fire departments have an ISO Class 1 rating and less than 250 fire departments have a CPSE accreditation. A small subset of 48,000 fire protection districts in the U.S. have both. Albuquerque Fire Rescue has made it our goal to achieve this accreditation in conjunction with maintaining our status as an ISO Class 1 department. In order for AFR to grow as an organization and to meet the needs of the community that we serve, we must have a Strategic Plan. This living document is not only a requirement for the accreditation process; it also allows us to identify community needs and a means to measure our performance. In the FY/20 Budget, AFR has received \$60,000 to start this accreditation process. This money will pay for a third-party facilitator to guide us through applicant agency process as we develop a Community Risk Assessment – Standards of Cover document, Community-driven Strategic Plan and Self-Assessment Manual. The process is typically 18-24 months involves a significant commitment from a committee of several Deputy Chiefs, Battalion Chiefs and Captains. Accreditation is an international recognition of achievement. It shows to our community that this department is performing to industry best practices and we hold ourselves accountable through an external peer review.

# AFR FY20 BUDGET

## **ADDITIONAL FLEET MECHANICS AND NEW FACILITY**

Utilizing our loan from the NM Finance Authority, we will move into our new fleet facility at 76014 Los Volcanes NW in the first quarter of 2020. The seller will perform the build-out as part of this purchase by adding an additional work bay on the east side and we will take possession of after this is complete. This property is approximately 2.52 acres of land and will have a finished shop of 13,060 square feet (existing Fleet Facility is 5,000 sq'). The building will include staff offices, a parts room, a conference room and multiple work bays. The property will have a private entrance, yard lighting and be fully fenced. Once we have moved into the facility a drop program will be implemented for preventative maintenance and repairs while units are attending classes at our Fire Academy. We will also add five (5) certified mechanics and one administrative assistant to the fleet staff raising our total to 12 personnel. This will greatly increase the number of mechanics that work on our apparatus.

## **AMENDED THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE FIRE CODE**

During the FY20 Budget process Albuquerque Fire Rescue amended several section of the Fire Code. While there were some minor technical updates and the major changes included a new cost recovery mechanism, a new Fire & Life Safety Fee and the implementation of a compliance system to track life safety systems.

## **GRANTS RECEIVED IN 2019**

Funding for any fire department is never easy to come by. We are always seeking out additional funding opportunities to fill the gaps and meet the needs of the community. Grants also provide us the ability to move projects along between the fiscal year. AFR received the following grants in 2019:

### **Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant**

In the spring of 2019, AFR applied for the Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The purpose of the SAFER Grant program is to provide funding directly to fire departments to assist in increasing the number of firefighters responding to emergency incidents. Adequate staffing is necessary to meet industry standards and help maintain our Insurance Services Office (ISO) classification rating. Our Department has a Public Protection Classification rating of "1" from ISO (the highest score possible), resulting in lower insurance rates for residents of Albuquerque. In November of 2019, AFR received notification that we were awarded over \$1.2 million to fund 12 new firefighter positions. Once hired and trained, these additional positions are assigned to the field as other floating positions. These new positions will increase our staffing relief factor when vacancies occur.

On Monday, December 2, 2019, the City Council unanimously approved the matching funds of \$3.3 million for AFR to receive this grant. Including the **SAFER Grant-funded positions**, AFR is now funded for 729 sworn firefighters.

### **NM Fire Protection Grant**

AFR received \$89,824 from the FY19 New Mexico Fire Protection Grant. The grant paid for 800 new flash hoods and 145 new helmets for structural fire-fighting.

### **Housing & Urban Development Community Development Block Grant**

We were able to purchase a new Engine 11 through the Housing and Urban Development, Community Development Block Grant. This program replaced the old apparatus and all of its equipment at a total cost of \$800,000 with a new Pierce Velocity chassis.

### **State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)**

In 2019, AFR received funding from SHSGP for two projects. The first project totaled \$35,000 to replace expired ballistic vests and helmets assigned to the Battalion Chiefs and Quality Assurance Captains vehicles. This equipment is used during active shooter situations. The second project improves the interoperability of the departments' communication system by adding new equipment and software to the AFR Command vehicle (CV1). With the additional dispatch consoles, new radio equipment and other upgrades, CV1 is now classified as a Type III Mobile Communications Center.



# PARTNERSHIP WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

**A key component to the success of any fire department is the relationship with the elected officials.** Albuquerque Fire Rescue is an essential component of this community's ability to mitigate threats to lives and property. An effective fire services provide both emergency response and community risk reduction. Quality service delivery, adequate training and equipment, and positive community relationships help improve quality of life, growth, and economic opportunity in a municipality. Essentially, our elected officials and firefighters share similar visions and values.

Local governments are constantly constrained by resources, which makes resource sharing an essential component of today's fire service. Together with IAFF Local 244 Albuquerque Fire Rescue Administration has established a productive and collaborative relationship with our City Administration, City Councilors, NM Senators and Representatives and our NM Governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham. Our elected officials are committed to helping provide the resources and support necessary for Albuquerque firefighters to save lives and property.

Each month, AFR provides elected officials a monthly report detailing various aspects of the department. From monthly call totals, response times, public education programs, to an update from each division, we are committed to providing information on our department's progress to our elected officials.

## HOUSE BILL 324

On Tuesday, April 2, 2019, NM Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham signed House Bill 324 into law. This law adds Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to the list of conditions presumed to be proximately caused by working as a Firefighter. IAFF Local 244, the New Mexico Professional Firefighters Association and Firefighters from all over the state worked tirelessly to ensure this bill passed.

Regularly, our firefighters face situations that most of the public will never encounter – not even once in their lifetime. Unfortunately, death and tragedy are routine events in the fire service and firefighters, from time to time, will struggle to handle these incidents. With this legislation, we have an opportunity to provide resources for those firefighters who need it most. The existing firefighter occupational disease legislation has already made an impact on our FFs and their families, and this will too. Each community has a significant investment in their firefighters, and we should do all that we can to take care of them before they turn to substance abuse or suicide. PTSD is a real condition in the fire service, and I am grateful that our Governor and legislature recognized this.



## NM GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

During the 2019 New Mexico Legislative session AFR received \$5,023,400 in capital outlay from both Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and Albuquerque area NM Senators and Representatives.

- Ladder 13 \$1,400,000
- Structural Firefighting Gear \$1,700,000
- Fire Academy Drill Field Improvements \$750,000
- Squad 1 \$700,000
- Engine 8 (partial cost) \$300,000
- Fire Station Drive Pads \$130,000
- Fire Station 12 \$158,400
- Bunker Gear \$50,000



# PARTNERSHIP WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

Our nine City Councilors are crucial to the success of this department. Without their support we would not be able to support new programs throughout the year or fund some of our new equipment. Using their set-aside funding, these Councilors funded the following projects for AFR

## District 1 – City Councilor Sanchez

River Markings signs	\$2,400
EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	\$5,500
9/11 Memorial	<u>\$10,000</u>
	<b>\$17,900</b>

## District 3 – City Council President, Councilor Pena

EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	<b>\$3,500</b>
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## District 4 – City Councilor Winter

EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	\$3,500
9/11 Memorial	<u>\$50,000</u>
	<b>\$53,500</b>

## District 5 – City Council Vice-President, Councilor Borrego

Fire Station 21 Roof Repairs	\$135,000
New Brush 22 (wildland apparatus)	\$163,374
9/11 Memorial	\$15,000
Fire Station 18 landscaping	<u>\$12,000</u>
	<b>\$325,374</b>

## District 6 – City Councilor Davis

Three Thermal Imaging Cameras	\$13,500
Washer and Dryers for Fire Stations 3, 5, and 11	\$6,800
Battalion 2 SUV	\$60,000
Community Outreach Trailer	\$6,500
EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	<u>\$3,500</u>
	<b>\$90,605</b>

## District 7 – Councilor Gibson

EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	\$3,500
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## District 8 - Councilor Jones

One Thermal Imaging Camera	\$4,500
No Smoke Diesel Exhaust System (E16 and L15)	\$36,000
EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	\$3,500
9/11 Memorial	\$25,000
Vial of Life pamphlets	\$3,173
Fire Station 16 fitness equipment	\$3,000
Wilderness Rescue Equipment	<u>\$3,500</u>
	<b>\$78,673</b>

## District 9 – Councilor Harris

EMS Simulation Mannequin (portion)	<b>\$3,500</b>
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Tom Romero	Reyes Solis
Karla Saavedra	Kenny Lucero
Henry Towles	Ruben Collado
James Breen	Mark Boisvert
Robert Sanchez	Thomas Krupiak
Rick Chadwick	Mike Royce
Gilbert Santistevan	John Sedillo
Gary Jones	Llyod Rantanen
Skip Navarette	Victor Padilla
Gabe Criswell	Troy Hamby
Paul McClure	Ricardo
Tony	Randy Crews
die	Richard
Coz Madrid	
Randy W	

# FLEET MAINTENANCE

The AFR Fleet division is now made up of a fleet manager, Fleet Specialist, five fleet mechanics, one service writer and an administrative assistant. Fleet personnel are responsible for the purchasing, repair, maintenance, and disposition of all fire apparatus and support vehicles. All are trained, certified, and experienced in mechanical diagnostics, repair and maintenance of frontline emergency apparatus, and the complementary systems with which today's fire apparatus are equipped. Fleet personnel provide 24-hour coverage, so that units needing attention are back in-service as soon as possible. Apparatus are serviced in the AFR Fleet maintenance facility, located in Albuquerque's downtown area. The shop owns 10 portable lifts, each with the lifting capacity to work on the heaviest of trucks. The large parking area provides for storage of spare units and the ability to accomplish our annual pump testing of all certified pumpers. The program provides an outstanding service resource to keep AFR's emergency fleet in full readiness.

## 2019 PURCHASES

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Engine 5, 17, 8,12,14,11
- Ladder 13
- Rescue 1,6, 16,19,22 (with new power lift gurneys)
- Battalion 1,2,3,4 and 78
- Medical Director vehicle
- ECMO 1
- Brush 22
- Wildland 2

### SUPPORT

- 2 Ford Vans
- 1 F150
- 3 Ford Explorers
- 2 F-350's
- 15 Honda Civics
- 7 Ford Fusions
- Community Outreach Trailer



**NATHANIEL MEISNER**  
FLEET BATTALION CHIEF



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1079 Work orders for 1733 Requests
  - \* 47% closed within 72hrs
- Identification and execution of a purchase agreement for a new Fleet Maintenance Facility
  - \* Modern Infrastructure
  - \* 12 work bays
  - \* 2.5 acres of land
  - \* Steam wash bay
  - \* Interior layout to accommodate all apparatus types
- Completed recommendations report to improve fleet maintenance operations
- Reduced vendor costs by performing more work in house
- Improved data tracking and reporting
- Established process for vehicle accident repairs
- Streamlined the apparatus up-it and in-service process to get new units in the field quickly
- Completed all annual pump, ladder, and DOT inspections
- Used HUD CDBG Funds to acquire a new fire engine for Station 11
- Retrofit of a rescue for field ECMO
- Specification work for new Rescues, Engines, Ladders, and Squads
- Installation of E-draulics and NarcBox on Rescues



# LOGISTICS

The AFR Logistics Program serves the entire department with one manager and two warehouse employees who manage: purchases, inventory, distribution, and retirement of all consumable goods, tools, equipment.

Major purchases are accomplished internally; the manager establishes specifications, develops contracts and places orders. The team receives and inventories shipments, and stocks delivered product in a central warehouse. The manager maintains contracts for vendors who service and supply AFR facilities.

Responsible for providing all necessary fire equipment, tools, station supplies, and personal protective equipment, Logistics delivers most items to the requesting stations on a weekly basis, allowing emergency units to stay in-service and available for incident response. Logistics is responsible for all bunker gear that is issued to fire fighters, including laundering, inspections, and the coordination of outsourcing of needed repairs.

The program and its personnel have proven to be a critical resource to field personnel in the execution of emergency services to the community.

## 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A new employee was hired to fill a vacancy left after one of our members retired.

### **Significant Purchases:**

- Purchased 672 turnout boots.
- Purchased 540 sets out turnout gear.
- Purchased and received 940 particulate blocking flash hoods.
- Purchased and received 145 helmets.
- Purchased and received 50 Scott X3 SCBA packs.
- Purchased and received Thermal imaging cameras for Rescue 3,5,11, 16 and Ladder 21.
- Purchased and received equipment for HEART program.
- Full complement of PPE, Equipment and Supplies for the 93<sup>rd</sup>, 94<sup>th</sup>, and 95<sup>th</sup> Cadet Classes.
- Station 16 Fitness equipment.
- Station 16 wilderness rescue equipment.



**JARRED BALDWIN**  
CAPTAIN OF  
LOGISTICS DIVISION

### **Contracts:**

- Annual hose testing service
- Annual aerial testing service
- Annual fire extinguisher inspection
- Uniform contract management
- Fire equipment

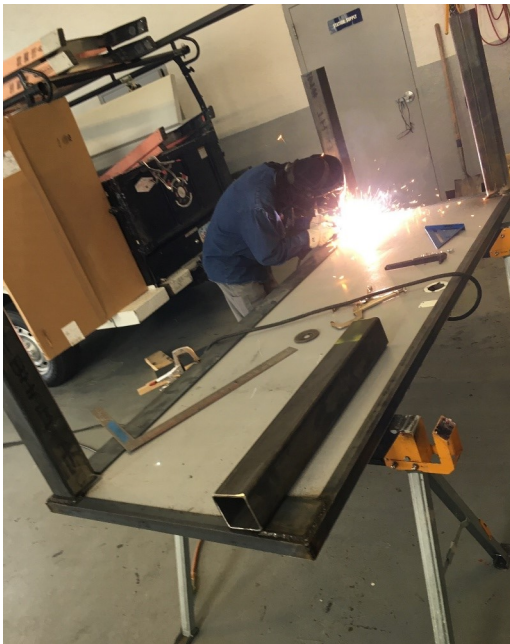


# FACILITY MAINTENANCE

The Facility Maintenance program plays a crucial role in keeping the departments facilities running 24/7. The team consists of one Fire Rescue Lieutenant and three civilian employees that respond to both repair work requests and planned construction projects. Every station was updated with interstitial spacing that provides a barrier from the apparatus bay to the living areas to reduce harmful exposure to exhaust particulates. The "CIP crew", as affectionately referred to, is vital in providing exceptional living/working conditions for those who serve the citizens of Albuquerque.

## 2019 STATION PROJECTS

- Washer/ Dryer installations projects completed at Stations 3, 4, 11, 13, 15
- Washer/Dryer delivery at Stations 2, 5, 7, 8, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22
- Remodel at Plans Checking to accommodate three more personnel
- Remodel/paint at ADAPT.
- FMO/HEART - paint facility
- Station 3, 13, 20 painting of the interior
- Station 10 - Bathroom remodel with new tile
- Station 5 – Parking stripes for parking lot, new keyless entry door lock
- Station 1 – 2 new keyless entry door locks
- Station 3 – Workshop/storage area for HTR program
  - \* Install winch for swift water rescue raft
- 911 Call Center – new elevator piston and jack
  - \* New vacuums for facility



# AIR MANAGEMENT

AFD's Air Management Systems are maintained by an in-house, full-time technician, working out of the Department's Logistics warehouse responsible for all maintenance and repair work on all SCBA Air-Paks, Ska-Paks, and breathing air compressors within the department. The technician provides annual testing, and complete inspections of all SCBA equipment. Replacement SCBA equipment and delivery of breathing air compressor systems to critical fire scenes is available 24 hours a day.

The program is supported by five 6000 psi breathing air compressors. Three are stand-alone units, at the Fire Academy and Stations 13 and 17. Two units are mobile; one is housed at Fire Station 7 and the second is housed at Logistics. Two squads are also equipped with cascade systems.

## 2019 UPDATES

- 50 New Scott Safety X3 Pro SCBAs were purchased. The Units were issued to Battalion 2, Station 1, & the Academy.
- 50 new Scott Safety 30 minute Cylinders (4500PSI) were purchased. The Units were also issued to Battalion 2, Station 1, & the Academy.
- Total# of SCBAs – 329
- Total# of Cylinders – 406
- No hydrostatic testing was required this year as we are still within the five year window in between testing requirements.



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Albuquerque Fire Rescue serves the community as an all hazards response. This means that our skills are diverse and cover everything from fire suppression and protection to a wide range of medical emergencies. In order best to serve the large population of Albuquerque and the metro area, every one of our firefighters are also Emergency Medical Technicians at the levels of Basic, Intermediate or Paramedic. The majority of 911 calls we receive are for medical emergencies. Our program directors are always working on improving ways to reduce non-emergent calls by providing alternative responses that better equip citizens with the healthcare services they need most. This ensures that the frontline emergency crews are always available for critical emergencies. We pride ourselves on being one of the most progressive fire departments in the country utilizing the most modern protocols and the best equipment to help our firefighters succeed in keeping our community as safe.

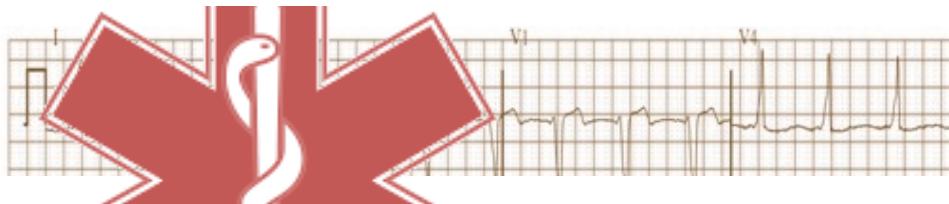


**KIMBERLY PRUETT, MD**  
ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR



**CHRIS ORTIZ**  
EMS BATTALION CHIEF

In 2019, the AFR Medical Director, **Dr. Kimberly Pruett**, worked on several projects and new programs for AFR. The EMS guidelines were updated and published on an app. A new process to credential new paramedics was implemented, and 11 paramedics new to AFR went through the process. Dr. Pruett assisted with the implementation of the podcasts and helped streamline CE training on YouTube. She also attended several conferences with speaking roles including the IAFF Safety Conference, EMS Expo, NAEMSP, Eagles Conference, and the NM Fire and EMS Expo.



# PHARMACY

The AFR Pharmacy is a component of the EMS Division and provides all medications, pharmacy regulatory direction, and EMS specific equipment for the Department. The office works directly with a contracted Pharmacist in order to meet all Quality Assurance Medication reviews, Rescue inspections, and fire station EMS supply inspections. Currently staffed with a Paramedic Lieutenant and a Suppression Driver, the office is responsible for the purchasing, stocking, and delivery of all EMS supplies and medications, through the SharePoint Web System, using the Inventory Management System (IOS).



## 2019 UPDATES

During 2019, AFR Pharmacy made many changes related to the EMS equipment carried by our firefighters. Pharmacy has added multiple new products to include ultrasound and a ventilator that will be added to the QA vehicle. We have changed over to a new and improved CPAP device (on all Rescues). New blood control IV catheters are now used in the field to keep providers safer. A process started in 2019 to upgrade one of the bags used to carry supplies on all AFR units (trauma bags). The Pharmacy was successfully inspected by the NM Board of Pharmacy in 2019, which happens every 3-5 years. The process to replace all of the 3G modems with 4G modems is well under way and will conclude at some point in 2020. The Pharmacy is involved with the move to the new inventory software Target Solutions Check It, this software will replace the SharePoint website that was used for ordering. The Pharmacy is excited about the new Narc Box and the capabilities that come with the new device.





# QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER

2019 saw a myriad of advances in the expanding genre of pre-hospital medicine that is provided by Albuquerque Fire Rescue. Spearheading every one of these new technologies were the Quality Assurance (QA) Officers, Captain Robert LaPrise, Captain Clint Anderson and Captain Kevin Ferando.

**ECMO** - The development of a pre-hospital ECMO program through a collaboration with the University of New Mexico hospital would not have been possible without the tireless work of our QA Cadre. The QA Officers trained for countless hours alongside the critical care physicians and AFR field providers to make the lifesaving procedure a reality in the pre-hospital environment.

**Ultrasound** - AFR became one of the first fire-based EMS agencies in the United States to perform field ultrasound in pre-hospital cardiac arrest. AFR applied for and was granted a special skill through the NM EMS Bureau to perform field ultrasound on cardiac arrest patients to check for cardiac contractility. Although the skill does not change the algorithm for the care that is provided, it does help guide clinical decision making on the survivability of patients and helps guide transport decision making using this advanced technology.

**Portable Ventilators** – Medical studies have shown that hypoventilation and more prevalent, aggressive hyperventilation in cardiac arrest patients can lead to negative outcomes. Increased intercranial pressure and decreased cerebral perfusion lead to brain death. Along with better training on ventilation techniques, AFR has also implemented the use of The Para Pac ventilator for use in pre-hospital cardiac arrests. This will provide consistent ventilations with accurate PEEP and tidal volumes for better patient outcomes when we achieve a return of circulation.

**Cerebral Oximetry**- Though a collaboration with UNMH EMS Consortium, the assigned QA officers are outfitted with cerebral oximeter probes. These are used in pre-hospital cardiac arrests to measure cerebral perfusion and serve as a marker for patient survivability. AFR is the only agency in the State of New Mexico tracking this data.

**Firefighter Mental Health/CISD**- 2019 brought with it many tragic events that our providers responded to and were expected to perform their duty at the highest level. Many times, these high acuity events lead to PTSD and other mental health crises for first responders. The QA Office has been integral in arranging many debrief sessions for our providers and other agencies to help them deal with the constant rigors of the job.

**Monthly Training**- The assigned QA Officers create monthly EMS training topics that are distributed to the Battalion Chiefs, as well as the QA Cadre. The monthly training topics are built around EMS trends within our organization and beyond. They are a great format for case studies, chart review and lessons learned. We realize the difficulty in consistently coming up with EMS training topics and the hope is this will aid in sparking crew conversation and new thought processes. Each of these topics is vetted by our Medical Director to ensure the message from the Division is consistent.

## PARAMEDIC CAPTAIN QA 78 OFFICERS



ROBERT LaPRISE



CLINTON ANDERSON



KEVIN FERANDO



# HOME ENGAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE TEAM

The HEART program is a new and evolving model of community-based health care in which paramedics function outside their customary function of emergency response and transport roles. In 2019, The HEART program successfully completed its first full calendar year. HEART consists of six AFR Paramedics who are all certified as Community Health Workers. This CHW training helps the HEART members to reduce health inequalities for Albuquerque's diverse communities through increased access to high quality, cost-effective, and integrated health care and social systems of care. HEART even trained five members to be CHW trainers so we can conduct training on our own. HEART makes home visits in a non-emergency setting to help people in the community with a variety of medical and social needs. The mission of HEART is to create a healthy community by bridging the gap between health and social services through compassion, education and awareness. The HEART program works with individuals who are identified through our internal database and from AFR field referrals.



**JIMMY MELEK**  
HEART PROGRAM  
CAPTAIN

## 2019 UPDATES

HEART received almost 300 referrals of individuals who field crews believe could benefit from the program. HEART works in a variety of ways to help these citizens so they are not as dependent on emergency services. The primary focus of HEART continues to remain on the highest utilizers of 911. In 2019, HEART assisted almost 100 members of the community by taking part in over 3,000 calls, emails, meetings, and home visits. The HEART program continues to exceed its goal of creating a greater than 50% reduction of 911 activations of individuals we are able to work with.

In the last quarter of 2019, the Fall Prevention program was reinforced with the addition of one Paramedic Lieutenant and a certified Carpenter to create the Fall Prevention Home Modification program. These two individuals collaborate to make modifications to individual's homes to help prevent future falls. These modifications range from simple bathroom and bedside adjustments like grab bars and hand rails, to widening doors and creating ramps for stairs. Over 30 modifications have already been completed since the start of the program.

HEART participated in multiple outreach events in various locations throughout the city. HEART provided over 50 Hepatitis A and Flu vaccinations to the homeless population of Albuquerque who is most at risk. HEART also conducted almost 50 Narcan kit distributions with harm reduction trainings to educate participants how potential harm associated with injection substance use and other related activities. All individuals were offered information on additional resources and appropriate services that could help them.

HEART continues to participate in additional activities that will benefit the department and the community as a whole. HEART Driver Jake Gray has obtained \$22,000 to initiate and implement a therapy dog program that will be used to help HEART clients and members of AFR after significant traumatic events. The process should be complete with the placement of a dog by mid-2020. Several HEART members have participated as hub members in a First Responder ECHO that is directed to bring training, awareness, and education of all areas relating to being a first responder and the effects on members partaking on doing this type of work.

HEART continues to receive universal support from City Administration, Fire Administration, IAFF 244, and so many other community organizations and is excited for more challenges and opportunities to positively influence our community while reducing the need for emergency services for some of Albuquerque's most vulnerable populations.



# EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION ECMO

In 2019, AFR partnered with UNMH critical care physicians to roll out a mobile ECMO program. This partnership allowed AFR and UNM provide the first ECMO response in the field in North America.

AFR responds to approximately 600 out of hospital cardiac arrests per year. AFRs dispatch center is staffed around the clock with uniformed Firefighters who have the experience and training to be able to provide pre-arrival instruction to include CPR instructions over the phone, to the our citizens during a medical emergency.

Our Firefighters and Paramedics respond within minutes to the scene of all cardiac arrests. We are trained to perform high quality CPR, Advanced Cardiac Life Support procedures, as well as the emergent medical transport to definitive care at the emergency room. AFRs EMS Division has built quality assurance metrics around the focus of high quality CPR and out of hospital cardiac arrest.

Prior to this program, if an ECMO candidate was recognized in the field, it required that we provide the initial care, confirm the pt. met criteria, notify the hospital, package the pt. for transport and try to reach the doors of UNMH ED all within 35 minutes from pt. collapse. This time benchmark would in theory give the physicians enough time to assume care and perform the procedure.

We realized however, that there are certain geographic points in the City, that based on distance and traffic patterns, would make the "Golden Hour" benchmark a near impossibility.

Therefore, the focus of this program was on the feasibility of bringing the ECMO interventionists to the emergency scene.

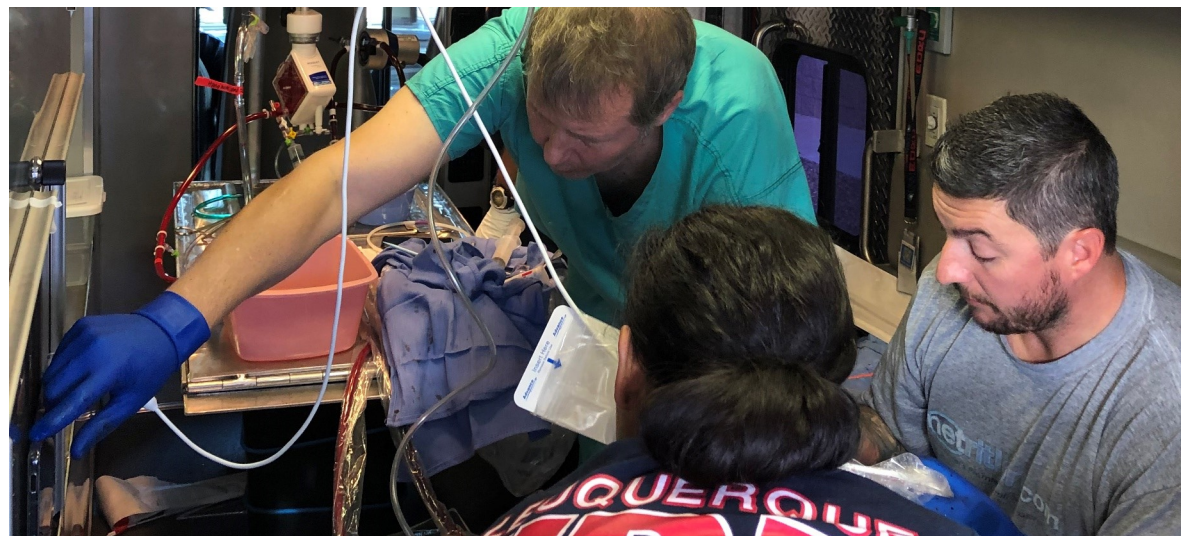
We realized that being the first agencies on the continent to make this a success, could potentially be a heavy lift.

Thankfully, through the support of Mayor Tim Keller, CAO Sarita Nair, Fire Chief Paul Dow and countless others in our great cities administration, we were able to go from the initial planning meeting to a soft rollout of the program in just 9 months.

With the help of UNMH, we were able to outfit a reserve AFR Rescue into essentially a surgical suite with all of the equipment necessary for the procedure.

The unit which is labeled as the Advanced Cardiac Resuscitation Unit, responds out of Fire station 3, just off of UNM campus at 141 Girard NE.

Firefighters and Paramedic Firefighters from Station 3 received extensive training in sterile procedures and work as surgical assistants to the physicians.



# EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION ECMO

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. A 911 call comes into the dispatch center for a cardiac arrest, Monday- Friday from approx. 0800-1700. As this is the timeframe of cannulator availability.
2. Based on the information provided by the caller to the dispatcher, the arrest must have occurred with a pt. who is 18 to 75 years of age.
3. The event had to be witnessed, meaning the patient collapsed and went into cardiac arrest in front of family, bystanders or medical staff.
4. The pt. must have received bystander CPR immediately.
5. Once this small amount of information is ascertained by our uniformed dispatcher, they will dispatch the closest response units within that pts Geographic area AND will dispatch the ECMO unit from Fire Station 3.
6. The Pts will still receive the same high quality CPR and advanced life support from our providers based on their EMS Guidelines.
7. Once they have made pt. contact, our providers will confirm ECMO criteria and ensure they still meet the guideline. This would include specific cardiac rhythms, ensuring the arrest was not traumatic or solely respiratory in nature. They will also confirm that there are no comorbidities such as advanced stages of cancer, renal disease, liver disease etc. As those pre-existing conditions would exclude the pt. from this procedure both in and out of hospital.
8. Immediately upon dispatch, the ECMO unit is on the way to pick up the waiting cannulators outside of UNMH and they begin making their way to the emergency scene.
9. The initial arriving EMTs and Paramedics are maintaining radio contact with the incoming ECMO team. They are updating them on patient status and prepping the pt. for the procedure while they perform treatment. If at any time the initial crew feels it is more beneficial to initiate transport, they will do so. This program will in no way delay definitive care for our pts.
10. There will be an AFR EMS Supervisor and UNM EMS Consortium Physician also on scene for guidance.
11. The ECMO team will arrive and assume patient care from the initial responders and move the pt. to the back of the ACRU. There is a tent that will be set up at the rear of the ACRU unit to address pt. privacy as well as provide protection from the elements.
12. In the back of the ACRU, the physician will perform the cannulation procedure while AFR personnel work as sterile assist. Once the cannulation is complete, the patient will be placed on the ECMO pump in under the 1 hr. benchmark and is then provided a non-emergent transport back to UNMH.



# AFR TRAINING ACADEMY

The mission of the Albuquerque Fire Rescue Academy is to provide and facilitate training opportunities to firefighters, the citizens of Albuquerque, and to surrounding communities – in an effort to maximize preparedness for community emergency needs. The goal is to ensure that all Department personnel maintain the core knowledge and practical skills needed to provide efficient, professional care and service to the citizens of Albuquerque. The Academy also serves to assess and coordinate all new technical information that is disseminated to Department personnel. It tests new equipment and procedures, facilitates fire company and individual performance evaluations, oversees Safety, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and Wildland Training Programs. All personnel holding rank and/or special qualifications or certifications are required to meet the training and Continuing Education requirements pertinent to those specific endorsements or accreditations. Included in this are: EMT basic, intermediate, and paramedics; Code Inspectors; HazMat technicians; wildland firefighters; Emergency Medical Dispatchers; Heavy Rescue technicians; Firefighters; and Fire Officers.



**FRANK SANCHEZ**  
BATTALION CHIEF OF  
TRAINING



**WILLIAM McMULLEN**  
SUPPRESSION/CADET  
TRAINING CAPTAIN



**STEPHANY PEREA**  
EMS TRAINING  
CAPTAIN



## FACILITY USE

Albuquerque Fire Rescue's (AFR) Training Academy is a public facility with seven (7) classrooms, a computer lab, a multi – purpose room, an auditorium, and a drill field with a 7-story tower. These various spaces are used by many different organizations from around the city, state, and country throughout the year.

### AGENCIES THAT HAVE UTILIZED THE TRAINING ACADEMY IN 2019:

- Albuquerque Police Department
- Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF)
- City of Albuquerque Animal Welfare
- City of Albuquerque Camp Fearless
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
- New Mexico Department of Health
- New Mexico Environmental Department
- New Mexico Fire Marshall's Office
- New Mexico Forestry
- New Mexico State Fire Academy
- ROCO Rescue
- Safer New Mexico
- Various Neighborhood Association Meetings



# RECRUITING

The Training Division is integral in the ongoing process of identifying and recruiting qualified candidates for a career with AFR. Combined with the consistent effort of the Executive Staff, Public Affairs Office, Fire Marshal's Office, and AFR personnel and members, we have increased the amount of applicants to our highest numbers in over a decade. By recognizing every interaction is an active or passive recruiting opportunity, we have been able to enhance community outreach through traditional channels such as career fairs, hiring seminars (in-house) and ride-alongs. In 2019 we extended our reach tremendously by implementing key components of our marketing and recruitment plan.

- First phases of a dedicated media studio
- Launched AFR LinkedIn page
- Launched AFR YouTube channel
- Optimized AFR website
- Recorded, produced, and edited several recruiting videos
- Redeveloped and updated AFR website

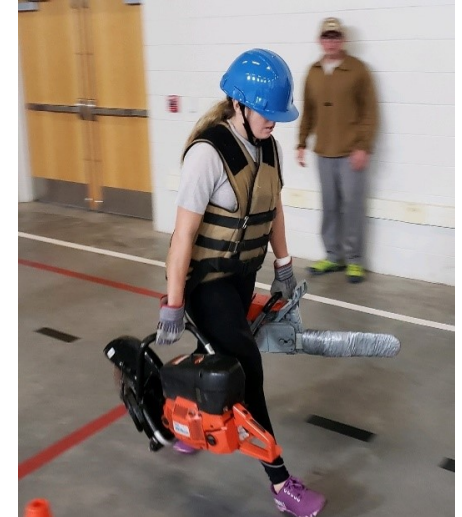
# HIRING PROCESS

During 2019, there were two (2) Hiring Processes organized, facilitated and conducted by the Training Division. This Process includes a written exam, physical fitness test, and an oral interview. The oral interview is conducted by three (3) City employees, one from an outside city department and two (2) Officers with AFR. Once the candidates have successfully passed all the testing, they move on to the Chief's Selection Process where they are selected for conditional employment by the AFR Executive staff. Upon passing a background check and physical, they are given an official offer of employment for the next Cadet Class.

For the February 2019 Hiring Process 84 eligible individuals applied, with 54 candidates making it to the Chief's Selection process where 45 were selected for the 94<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class.

Due to the low numbers for the February 2019 Hiring Process, AFR removed the EMT-B license as a requirement to apply for the August 2019 Hiring Process. Largely because of this, the number of eligible applicants increased from 83 to 234.

Of the 234 applicants, 93 successfully made it to the Chief Selection process where 47 were selected and offered a position in the 95<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class.



# CADET PROGRAM

The Training Division graduated two (2) cadet classes during 2019, the 93<sup>rd</sup> Lateral Cadet Class with ten (10) members, and the 94<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class with 40 members. Due to timing requirements, this effort equated to 30 straight weeks of Cadet Program over the summer. Innovations included the implementation of two (2) new suppression training props (floor collapse and hose advancement) constructed by AFR members as well as the first ever “Field Transition Night”. For 24 hours the cadets of the 94<sup>th</sup> were divided into ten engine companies each led by an AFR officer, with their own quarters at the Academy, and dedicated alarm and response radio channels. These 10 engines ran over 70 calls with live moulage actors, multiple structure fires in the burn room, and three multi-car extrications using salvaged vehicles.

The Academy staff also worked closely with the field training officer cadre to fulfill all the training and evaluation requirements for the 90<sup>th</sup>, 91<sup>st</sup>, and 92<sup>nd</sup> Cadet Classes which includes quarterly, 7-month, and 11- month evaluations at the Academy. In 2019 52 members successfully completed probation and were promoted from Firefighter 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (Probationary) to Firefighter 1st Class. There are currently 49 Probationary Firefighters, and 45 individuals beginning the 95<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class on January 6, 2020

## **EMT-BASIC PROGRAM**

The 58<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class was the last to receive EMT-Basic training while in the Cadet Program. After the 58<sup>th</sup>, possessing an EMT license at the Basic level or higher was a mandatory condition of hire for prospective candidates. After more than twenty years, AFR has eliminated the EMT-Basic requirement as a condition of hire beginning with the 2020 95<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class. Following graduation from the 18-week cadet program, cadets who already possess an EMS license will be promoted Firefighter 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, receive a field assignment, and begin their probationary year. Those without EMS licenses will remain at the AFR Training Academy for an additional six weeks to receive a complete 180 hour EMT-Basic course. This course is provided in partnership with, and is a component of an ongoing collaboration with CNM and CNM Ingenuity. The class will be taught by AFR instructors who also serve as adjunct faculty for CNM.



***“I have no ambition in this world but one, and that is to be a fireman. The position may, in the eyes of some, appear to be a lowly one; but we who know the work which the fireman has to do believe that his is a noble calling. Our proudest moment is to save lives. Under the impulse of such thoughts, the nobility of the occupation thrills us and stimulates us to deeds of daring, even of supreme sacrifice.”***

**- FDNY Fire Chief Edward F. Croker**

## PROMOTIONAL PROCESS

Due to staffing demands, the Training Division and City HR conducted an off year Suppression and Paramedic Driver Promotional Process on January 23, 2019. There were a total of 53 Firefighters who took the Exam, resulting in 20 Firefighters, and 12 Paramedic Firefighters passing and becoming eligible for promotion. All 32 members that were on Promotional Eligibility Lists were promoted by July 6, 2019.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Training Division is responsible for the professional development of all members of AFR. This consists of developing and facilitating a Certification Class for each rank. The Driver Certification is a two (2) week course, and the Lieutenant, Captain, and Battalion Chief is one (1) week. For anyone to be eligible for upgrade or promotion into any of these ranks, they must successfully complete the course and pass the final examination with an 80%. A total of 100 members attended Certification Classes in 2019.

### **2019 AFR CERTIFICATION COURSES:**

#### **Driver**

March 11 through March 15 – 12 members

July 8 through July 19 – 12 members

October 14 through October 25 – 14 members

#### **Lieutenant**

February 4 through February 8 – 9 members

July 8 through July 12 – 12 members

November 4 through November 8 – 10 members

#### **Captain**

March 3 through March 8 – 14 members

August 5 through August 9 – 11 members

#### **Battalion Chief**

May 6 through May 10 – 6 members

In addition to the Certification Courses, a promotion to each rank requires successful completion of different IFSAC courses:

**Driver** – Fire Instructor I

**Lieutenant** – Fire Instructor I, Fire Officer I

**Captain** – Fire Instructor I, Fire Officer I, Fire Officer II

**Battalion Chief** – Fire Instructor I, Fire Officer I, Fire Officer II, Fire Officer III

Our Training Division works closely with the **New Mexico State Fire**

**Academy** to schedule and host IFSAC Certification Courses at the AFR Academy. Not only do members of AFR attend these courses, but members of other fire departments throughout the State of New Mexico also participate. During 2019 there were seven (7) New Mexico State Fire Academy Courses hosted by AFR.



### **State courses:**

February 25 – February 29: Fire instructor II – 19 people

March 4 – March 8: Fire Inspector I – 8 people

May 20 – May 24: Fire Instructor I – 15 people

June 24 – June 28: Officer I – 15 people

July 29 – August 2: Inspector I – 14 people

October 7 – October 11: Officer III – 12 people

December 2 – December 6: Instructor I – 13 people



## SUPPRESSION CONTINUING EDUCATION

During 2019, the Academy provided 18 hours of suppression continuing education (CE) to 682 uniform members within the department. AFR increased Suppression Continuing Education from one (1) day to two (2) days in 2019 to continue our collective training, advance our skill/ knowledge basis, and fulfill the ISO requirements of a Class 1 department. This training takes place over 72 days and represents well over a thousand hours of instruction and preparation by the Academy staff and the adjunct field instructors over the course of 6 months.

This year the Academy staff undertook a renovation of the Suppression CE program to include more input and involvement from the Operations Division as well as more skill (hands-on) evolutions. This year, Day 1 was dedicated to the roll-out of *Blue Card ICS*, and the implementation of the *Post Fire Gross Decon Policy*. Day 2 included evolutions in hose deployment and advancement, single-person forcible entry, on-air SCBA bottle exchange, and the new firefighter survivability prop.

Four (4) AFR members also attended advanced training in engine and truck operations at FDTN in Indianapolis, IN, in preparation for the 2020 Suppression CE curriculum.



## EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

The EMS Training Division is responsible for maintaining the licensure of all 682 AFR EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediates, EMT-Dispatchers and Paramedics. In 2019 the Training Division implemented (2) major changes pertaining to EMS CE's.

First, AFR initiated the Advanced Lecture Series allowing Paramedics and EMT-Intermediates to attend training without placing any units out of service. This innovative course delivered instruction from AFR's Medical Director, Dr. Kimberly Pruett, paramedics from the Training Division, as well as paramedics from the EMS training cadre. This was done in six (6) sessions over six (6) months, 270 Paramedics and Intermediates were trained in this format

Secondly, the Mobile Training Unit (MTU) was set in motion to provide EMS CE's to all EMT-Basics at their respective fire stations, rather than bringing them all to the Training Academy. This kept units in their response districts, instead of traveling across town to receive required training. Paramedics from the Training Division traveled out to each station to deliver high fidelity training scenarios in an intimate setting where 496 EMT-Basics were trained over a four-month period.

2019 marked the inaugural year for the AFR Podcast which delivers helpful training, best practices, and additional resources that can be accessed from anywhere. This ingenious format for delivering online continuing education originated from Captain Andrew West, also known as the voice of the podcast. He along with Dr. Kimberly Pruett, Tom Darling from the CABQ Employee Learning Center and countless other AFR Leaders, produced over 30 hours of material. 28 Podcasts were recorded, edited and posted for downloading from multiple platforms and 34 PowerPoints, with Voiceovers by Dr. Pruett were created, recorded and posted to AFR's YouTube Channel.



# PARAMEDIC SCHOOL

This year marked 45 years of partnership between AFR and the UNM EMSA which has given AFR the ability to host a satellite paramedic program at the Training Academy, with AFR members as the lead instructors. This accelerated program is geared toward active firefighters and EMTs from multiple neighboring agencies and has benefitted the community through a consistent flow of paramedics into the system.

## **2018-2019 PARAMEDIC PROGRAM**

- Started September 2018
- Ended July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Students graduated June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Graduated 15 students
  - \* 4 AFR
  - \* 6 Albuquerque Ambulance
  - \* 3 Santa Fe County Fire Department
  - \* 2 Rio Rancho Fire Department
- Didactic portion was from September 2018 – February of 2019
- Clinical shifts and internship ran from March 2019 – May of 2019
- 1300 hours over ten months
- 800 hours of didactic
- Over 200 hours for clinical rotations in a hospital
- 330 hours of internship on a rescue

## **CURRENT CLASS STARTED SEPTEMBER 2019**

- 20 students total
  - \* 9 AFR
  - \* 6 Albuquerque Ambulance
  - \* 2 Rio Rancho Fire Department
  - \* 3 Santa Fe County Fire Department



# LIFESAVER TRAINING

Through the implementation of our Lifesaver training, Albuquerque Fire Rescue is working to build a resilient threat adapted community that brings people together in true **One Albuquerque** fashion. There are several immediate life threats where seconds matter in terms of getting treatment. Citizens that are on the scene of an emergency the moment it occurs are truly the first responders and training them in a variety of life saving techniques creates that crucial step in the chain of survival of a patient with a life-threatening hemorrhage, cardiac arrest, or overdose. 2,160 civilians have been trained from over 51 different sessions. To date, there have been three success stories from every day citizens using this training to save lives.



# LIFESAVER

**BLEEDING CONTROL • CPR/AED • OPIOID INTERVENTION**

TRAINING THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

***In 2019 Lifesaver training was made mandatory for all City of Albuquerque employees with a goal of having everyone trained within a year. 1,343 COA employees were trained including the following***

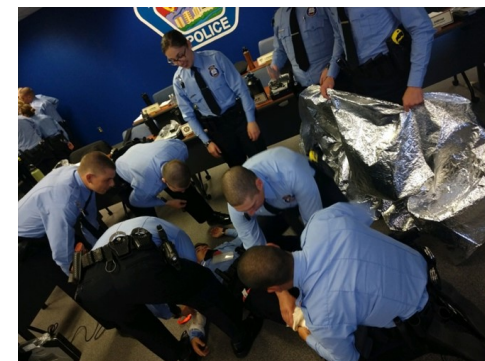
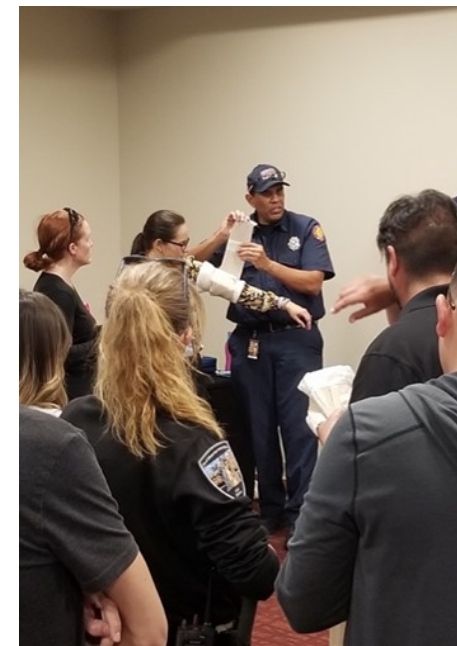
- City Legal**
- Equity & Inclusion**
- Family Community Services**
- Senior Affairs**
- Aviation**
- Animal Welfare**
- CA All**
- City Clerk**
- Council Services**
- Community**
- Economic Development**
- Environmental Health**
- Finance and Accounting**
- Family and Community**
- Human Resources**
- Legal**
- Municipal Development**
- Planning**
- Parks and Rec**
- Senior Affairs**
- Solid Waste**
- Technology and Innovation**
- Transit**

**OTHER ENTITIES TRAINED INCLUDE:**

- Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Volunteers**
- Albuquerque Public Schools Police Department**
- Boy Scouts**
- Calibers**
- Central New Mexico University**
- First Choice Health Care**
- Isotopes Park Staff**
- Metro Court**
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)**
- NM Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management**
- NM Mutual**
- NM Trucking Association**
- Oak Grove Classical Academy**
- Springstone Montessori**
- Summit Electric Supply**



**85 people trained at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Advocacy in Action Conference**



## Heroes Halloween

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Training Division hosted the 2019 Heroes Halloween event presented by Albuquerque Fire Rescue and the Albuquerque Police Department. This production represented months of planning and the collaboration of over 20 organizations and other City divisions, to host more than 6,000 participants at the Albuquerque Fire Rescue Training Academy. Guests had the chance to experience a Halloween carnival with 22 carnival games provided by each of AFR's fire stations, emergency response truck tours, a trunk-or-treat car show, a climbing wall, face painters, a puppet shows, balloon artists, spooky story time, food trucks, live public safety skill displays, and a 6 story haunted house. Transportation to and from the event was provided by dedicated bus services and several truckloads of donated food items were collected at the entrance for families in need prior to Thanksgiving. This collaborative **One Albuquerque** effort was made possible through the generosity of the many contributing organizations as well as over 200 volunteers. The Training Division was central to the organization, construction, and execution of this free public event produced for the citizens of Albuquerque.



## Career Enrichment Center

The Career Enrichment Center (CEC) is an Albuquerque Public Schools Magnet High School. The name means that the curriculum prepares high school students for actual careers in very specific ways. The school provides specialized, dual-credit Science, Technology and Vocational classes for students from all APS High Schools. It also has its own specialized high school and associate degree program. One of the dual credit classes offered at the CEC is the Emergency Medical Technician course. The course is offered to qualified seniors from any APS high school and is taught over two (2) semesters. This is a ten credit hour course and after successful completion students are eligible to test for National Registry and receive an EMT-Basic license.

AFR and Albuquerque Public Schools have always worked together to improve our community and support our youth. In 2019, AFR EMS Training staff continued that tradition, as they have for the past six years, supporting the CEC program with instruction, lab assistance, and career guidance for the students throughout 2019. Also, Deputy Chief Sean Frazier served as the keynote speaker for the 2019 CEC graduating class. All AFR field personnel are required to maintain a minimum EMT-Basic license, and this course provides students the opportunity to apply with AFR and begin their career directly following high school.

## Mass Casualty Incident Simulation

In 2019, over 60 CEC EMT-Basic students joined AFR paramedic students for an annual Multi-Casualty Incident training event held at the AFR Training Academy. Paramedic and basic student's team up to treat patients injured in simulated mass casualty incidents. CEC cosmetology students provide make-up, props and materials to create realistic injuries. Albuquerque Ambulance provides transport services and the UNMH Medical Consortium provides emergency physicians to receive patients at the mock Emergency Department. PHI and Lifeguard provide air medical services, and APD SWAT provides security for the Rescue Task Force active shooter response protocol.



## Ride Along Program

Albuquerque Fire Rescue's Ride Along program provides the opportunity for civilians, Career Enrichment Center students, UNM and CNM EMT Paramedic students, United States Air Force Para Rescue students, Emergency Room Physicians, ATF, US Marshalls, FBI agents and other emergency medical providers to experience pre-hospital medicine in our 911 system.

EMT-B and Paramedic students are able to assess, treat and provide continued care under direct supervision of AFR Paramedics. This diverse and intimate interaction is immeasurable concerning community outreach, training, education, and providing quality patient care within our community.

Ride-alongs in 2019:

- 54 Civilians – Those interested in a possible career in the fire service are able to observe Fire and EMS calls or those wanting to learn more about what AFR does.
- 70 Career Enrichment Center students – High school students currently enrolled in an EMT-B class are able to observe patient care and obtain patient assessments.
- 352 CNM and UNM EMT-B/Paramedic students – These ride-alongs are required to successfully complete the program. They have direct interaction with patients and are able to treat and monitor patient treatments based on their findings and training.
- 48 USAF Para Rescue Paramedics – These ride-alongs are required to successfully complete the Para Rescue program. They respond to calls at the paramedic level, treating patients and prioritizing interventions needed.
- 26 ER Physicians – Able to see patient care prior to hospital treatment. Provide support to paramedics in the field.
- 56 ATF, FBI Agents / US Marshall – Medically trained law enforcement EMT's gain experience with patient care that can be applied to their specific setting when needed.

**AFR had a total of 606 ride-alongs in 2019.**

# DISPATCH CENTER

AFR Dispatch Center, or Alarm Room, is staffed 24 hours a day 7 days a week. It is the entry point for all emergency and non-emergency medical and fire-related requests for service in the City of Albuquerque. It is staffed by twenty-eight highly trained uniformed firefighters who are certified in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD). Additional staffing includes one Quality Assurance Officer, one Training Officer, one Captain, all supervised by a Deputy Chief.

Dispatch Center operates a Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) and Fire Priority Dispatch System (FPDS) based system that utilizes caller interrogation protocols to provide symptom-based information to prioritize calls and allocate resources. This software guides the dispatcher through a series of structured questions and algorithms after which the system determines whether the emergency call is immediately life threatening. Dispatchers are cross-trained on answering incoming emergency or non-emergency calls. The protocol includes answering and confirming the location of the emergency, the caller's phone number, and determination of the nature of the emergency. Dispatching the calls include informing responding units of where they are to respond, the type of emergency, and the appropriate radio channel. They also provide pre-arrival care and instructions to the caller, if needed. Additional responsibilities include handling all radio traffic of working incidents, ensuring that additional resources are dispatched if required, working with other agencies; and ensuring vacancies in the City are filled during large-scale events or department-wide training.

In 2019, the AFR Dispatch Center created and processed 105,526 calls for emergencies. AFR dispatchers averaged 289 emergency calls processed and dispatched a day. This number is down from 301 calls created and dispatched in 2018. The number of emergency and non-emergency calls received and made was 195,420 which equals 535 phone calls a day. All calls were handled by four shifts of eight dispatchers.

With cell phones, many incidents such as fires and car accidents will increase the workload during a short period of time. Many callers will make a call for the same incident with different and conflicting information. The dispatchers will work together to verify the information and send the correct resources. Depending on the type of emergency, the Alarm Room will dispatch the appropriate resources to provide fire suppression, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support (ALS) and technical operations. Certain type of emergencies requires multiple units. For example, an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest will have two units come to their aid. Similarly for fires and other emergencies, the dispatcher will assign the appropriate resources to protect life and property. Many of these emergencies require the dedication of a dispatcher to ensure the safety of the callers and the firefighters that respond.

The Dispatch Center works closely with the Albuquerque Police Department, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office, Bernalillo County Fire Department, Kirtland Air Force Base, and other entities, to provide the best customer care to our citizens and firefighters in the field. The concept of Automatic Aid erases jurisdictional boundaries for all participating agencies. This means that any time a call for service is made; the closest appropriate emergency response vehicle will be dispatched. This ensures that everyone receives the highest level of care available, in the shortest amount of time. This seamless and cooperative effort ensures that the closest station and appropriate resources are dispatched without a time or distance delay. AFR also maintains Mutual Aid Agreements with surrounding jurisdictions to help fulfill the needs of our neighboring agencies.



**PATRICK MENDOZA**  
CAPTAIN OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
DIVISION



## QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 2,016 medical / fire calls were reviewed in 2019 for quality assurance.
  - \* 168 Calls QA'd Monthly (6 per dispatcher – 4 EMS, 2 FIRE)
- 81 Additional QA's received from: Sharepoint, BCFD, APD, Captain Mendoza, DC Mowery

## TRAINING

- 6 new dispatchers were certified as EMD and 7 new dispatchers for EFD.
  - \* EMD: Lt. Ted King, Dr. Nathan Thornton, Dr. Arturo Guzman, Dr. Ashley Paiz, Dr. Zachary Trujillo
  - \* EFD: Lt. Ted King, Dr. Vic Padilla, Dr. Joe Garcia, Dr. Nathan Thornton, Dr. Arturo Guzman, Dr. Ashley Paiz, Dr. Zachary Trujillo
- 9 Dispatchers were re-certified in EMD and 10 Dispatchers were re-certified in EFD.
  - \* Consists of two comprehensive exams, documentation of thirty-six hours of continuing dispatch education (CDE) over the last twenty-four months, and re-certification in CPR.
- 4 Dispatchers completed a 3-week course at NM State Law Enforcement Academy and graduated to receive a PST Academy Certificate (State Tele-Communicator Certification). Requirement for all emergency dispatchers.
  - \* Lt. Ted King, Dr. Ryan Medford, Dr. Victor Padilla, Dr. Marco Lopez
- HB83 – 43 Dispatchers completed this 2 hour course mandated by NM State Law Enforcement Academy
- Lt. Gallegos and Lt. Nichols both attended instructor certification at APD to instruct HB-93
- Lt. Nichols attended HB-93 Train the Trainer. He can instruct our 2-hour state mandated HB-93 class that is required every 2 years
- First AFR Dispatch Podcast Recorded

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 105,526 emergency calls were created and dispatched, this is a reduction of 4290 calls from 2018.
- 195,420 calls were processed for incoming emergency, non-emergency, and outgoing calls.
- Retirement of Lt. Daniel Sanchez
- ProQA v13.1 upgraded to ProQA v13.2
- 7 new dispatchers: Lt. Ted King, Dr. Joe Garcia, Dr. Victor Padilla, Dr. Nathan Thornton, Dr. Arturo Guzman, Dr. Ashley Paiz, Dr. Zachary Trujillo
- Victor Padilla - Valedictorian for Public Safety Telecommunicator Class #144
- New AFR Dispatcher SOG's:
  - \* SOG 11-1-01 EMD V13.2 Run String
  - \* SOG 11-1-07 Emergency Rule
  - \* SOG 11-1-05 Dispatcher Quality Assurance
- National Public Safety Tele-Communicator Week: (April 14 – April 20, 2019)
- New Central New Mexico Public Safety Collaboration – team of representatives from various agencies working together to coordinate a multi-jurisdictional appreciation event for following agencies:
- Albuquerque Fire Rescue, Albuquerque Police Department, Albuquerque Ambulance, Albuquerque Aviation Police Department, Albuquerque Public Schools Police Department, New Mexico Department of Public Safety, Bernalillo County Communications, UNM Police Department, Sandoval County Regional Dispatch Center
- Improvement of Process Times by Dispatchers
- Alarm Room has become instrumental in early recognition eligibility with the ECMO program.

### 2020 INCOMING 911 CALLS

	911 Total Calls Answered	Answered within 14 seconds	% Answered within 14 seconds <sup>1</sup>	Answered within 16 seconds	% Answered within 16 seconds <sup>2</sup>	Answered within 40 seconds	% Answered within 40 seconds <sup>3</sup>
CY 2013	31,002	28,076	90.6%	28,707	92.6%	30,553	98.6%
CY 2014	54,629	49,389	90.4%	50,551	92.5%	53,868	98.6%
CY 2015	61,031	55,043	90.2%	56,430	92.5%	60,239	98.7%
CY 2016	69,243	60,862	87.9%	62,645	90.5%	67,544	97.5%
CY 2017	76,683	69,625	90.8%	70,666	92.2%	74,300	96.9%
CY 2018	89,486	85,164	95.2%	85,439	95.5%	87,809	98.1%
CY 2019	95,665	91,698	95.9%	91,958	96.1%	94,111	98.4%

<sup>1</sup> Goal: 95% answered within 14 seconds

<sup>2</sup> Goal: 95% answered within 16 seconds

<sup>3</sup> Goal: 99% answered within 40 seconds

### 2019 YEARLY ANALYTIC STATS:

<b>Emergency</b>	<b>96,141</b>
<b>Non-Emergency (Incoming)</b>	<b>76,657</b>
<b>Non-Emergency (Outgoing)</b>	<b>22,622</b>
<b>Total Calls:</b>	<b>195,420</b>

# TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Technical Services Division continues to be a vital part of Albuquerque Fire Rescue. Under the management of the Deputy Chief of Training and Communications, a Captain oversees the division and is the technical liaison between AFR and the City's Department of Technology and Information (DTI). Tech Services is comprised of a Captain, a Lieutenant, and three computer technicians at the driver rank - all uniformed Firefighters. The team works together to provide technical communication, and to address all computer and database issues for all divisions within AFR. As a team, they are tasked with purchasing, updating, and maintaining a variety of equipment – including radios, cell phones, servers, computers, devices and peripherals, software, and maps. They also act as administrators for a majority of the software programs utilized by AFR.

The Technical Services Division manages an inventory of over 400 radios (portable, mobile and base station), over 200 desktop computers, over 100 laptops/tablets, around 75 office printers, and countless peripherals and devices. Managing technological inventories and software programs, as well as overseeing various software accounts, calls for a team to handle the day-to-day and big-picture issues/upgrades associated with the trade. The division had 887 key service requests created in SharePoint in 2019. These requests range from replacing missing, outdated, or broken equipment to completing projects and tasks requiring a significant amount of time and attention. Additionally, the office receives an average of 20 requests via phone per day that are more acute and urgent, and are typically resolved over the phone. As a team, the Technical Services Division handled over 8,000 requests for service last year.

With the routine introduction of new technology, AFR Techs work hand-in-hand with DTI Techs to build servers, install software, update programs, and procure and install special equipment. This partnership helps to ensure that front-line units, as well as support divisions, have the tools and technology to respond effectively to emergency calls and carry out their daily functions.

The electronic mandates from the ACA, ISO, and NFIRS require that AFR consistently maintain its fleet of Mobile Data Terminals and desktop computers in order to provide the accuracy and delivery of key information to respective agencies. Technical Services assists in keeping Albuquerque Fire Rescue up-to-date and in compliance with these agencies.



**KRISTOPHER ROMERO**  
CAPTAIN OF  
TECHNICAL SERVICES





# 2019 PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Delivered and operated Command Vehicle 1 (CV1) at all large-scale city events and the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta
- Deployed the Air Supply Truck to several large structure fires and events to assist with filling SCBA bottles
- Delivered and operated the AFR Last Alarm Pumper to 10 retired firefighter funerals
- Issued equipment, personnel and training to City Security for the soft rollout of the Wellness Check Collaboration pilot program
- Vacation bid implementation and administration utilizing Telestaff software, saving AFR time and money
- Established a joint committee and held several meetings with APD Tech Services, including DTI
- Procurement and installation of computers, monitors, devices, and cell phones for 20+ new positions within AFR
- Setup and delivery of 25+ new Mobile Data Terminals to front-line units
- Began the process of replacing portable radios for our emergency units - 6 full stations completed
- Assisted DTI with installing new fiber circuits at the fire stations and with the SharePoint migration
- Installation of 24 new 32" monitors at Plans Checking, bringing that division closer to industry standard
- Aided in the build of AFR's new inventory management system



# RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The AFR Records Management System is an integral part of AFR's service delivery. RMS manages the incident documentation and data collection systems for all AFR responses. Using that information we can provide valuable data and statistical analysis for fire department operations, planning, and quality improvement. Data analysis is vital for the Department's strategic planning processes, and for making the decisions that keep AFR at the forefront of Albuquerque's public safety service providers. RMS is also the public access point for all fire department records. We provide records and information to law enforcement, insurance companies, other health care providers, lawyers, prosecutors, and citizens. RMS works to maintain AFR's compliance with HIPAA, IPRA, NEMESIS, and NFIRS requirements.

## SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### **FALSE ALARM REDUCTION AND FALSE ALARM BILLING**

RMS played a key role in the development and implementation of the False Alarm Reduction Program, with the assistance of the Fire Marshal and Albuquerque Police Department's False alarm reduction unit. RMS is not only tracking false alarms but also proactively helping AFR reduce false alarms that will save the City of Albuquerque thousands of dollars annually by reducing wear and tear on emergency response vehicles and fuel consumption.

### **EMS METRICS REPORT**

In collaboration with the QA/QI Committee and AFR's Medical Director, a monthly report was developed for compiling organizational data. Certain metrics are identified by the QA committee as markers for good patient outcome. These Metrics are not being tracked on an individual provider basis, but instead are being reviewed on a systemic level to show the great work AFR does.

### **ASSISTING INTERNAL CUSTOMERS**

RMS has been thrilled to assist FMO as they moved to utilize Image Trend as their primary source for their documentation needs. RMS worked with the ADAPT program to help them identify and track structures compromised by fire or other catastrophic events. Lastly, this division worked closely with the Arson division to start moving them to all electronic processes to include Arson investigations and Arson case history. This transition will greatly benefit AFR, the general public as well as the private sector when requesting incidents that may be in the investigative phase.

### **ASSISTING EXTREMAL CUSTOMERS**

Currently RMS is playing a small role in assisting UNM Hospital in addressing the opioid overdose and substance abuse epidemic by providing periodic data mining. This effort helps identify patients who would benefit from coordinated connections in a "peer to peer" environment leading to prevention and treatment resources.



**TOBY BACA**  
RMS CAPTAIN

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*RMS continuously strives to keep all patient information private and confidential as possible for the protection of all those that Albuquerque Fire Rescue serve.*

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### **NFIRS DATA AND REPORTING**

RMS has recently begun the process to detect, and track NFIRS reports that are incomplete. In doing so the division will be able to identify and perform trend analysis on the data and seek solutions as to why there are deficiencies.

### **AFR TRANSPORT BILLING**

RMS transport billing has continued to be successful and has worked to be more streamlined, effective and experienced in regards to billing QA and billing submission and billing invoice extractions that are needed for requestors. In fact, two members attended training to become Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialists (CADS).

### **IMAGE TREND PARTNERSHIPS**

RMS continues to partnership with Image Trend to improve system developments, upgrades and software repair. RMS can leverage system improvements due to AFR being one of Image Trends largest clients. Issues are quickly recognized with the large volume of data processed and fixes soon follow.

### **DIVISION EXPANSION**

In FY20, RMS was budgeted to expand current personnel with another Paramedic Lieutenant that started this fall.

# FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

The Fire Marshal's Office is dedicated to supporting Albuquerque Fire Rescue's overall mission of protecting the City of Albuquerque's citizens and its firefighters. This is done by educating, guiding and enforcing the City of Albuquerque's Fire Code (Ordinance 0-2019-012) which incorporates the International Fire Code (2015 edition), NFPA 101 Life Safety Code (2015 edition), along with some local amendments. The Fire Marshal is appointed by the Fire Chief and manages 4 major divisions, Inspections, Plans Checking, ADAPT and Fire Investigations. These divisions consist of four Captains, twelve lieutenants, twenty-four inspectors, three investigators and four civilian employees.

The Fire Marshal's Office has jurisdiction under the City of Albuquerque Fire Code, Council Bill No. 0-19-63, enactment 0-2019-012 to perform inspections of all businesses, new building construction, fire protection system installations and alterations within the City of Albuquerque. The goal of the Fire Marshal's Office is to work with business owners in making their building as safe as possible for the community that we both serve and their employees. This is done by educating those business owners on the Fire Code and working positively with them on a Plan of Action to ensure their business is safe and in compliance.



**GENE GALLEGOS**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE  
FIRE MARSHAL'S  
OFFICE AND  
FIRE MARSHAL

*Albuquerque Fire Marshal's Office has implemented the use of a third-party service called "The Compliance Engine". This service works with all Life Safety System maintenance companies to gather information on which businesses have Life Safety Systems and if that system is being maintained. If a business Life Safety System is not being annually inspected and serviced, the service will send the business owner a notice to educate them on the Fire Code and that the system must be serviced annually or semi-annually, depending on the system. In addition, The Compliance Engine will notify FMO of any business that have a life safety system that is down or under repair. This information helps FMO Inspection inspectors communicate with those business owners on what is required to maintain the safety of their business and the community while the system is under repair or out of service.*



**JACOB GOVALINGER**  
FMO CAPTAIN



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Passing through City Council and Implementing the 2019 Fire Ordinance (Ordinance 0-2019-012)**
- **Implementation of the new Fire and Life Safety fee through the Business Registration process**
- **Implementation of “The Compliance Engine”, a third-party service company to help monitor and maintain Life Safety Systems**
- **Recruitment of one new captain, 1 lieutenant and eleven new inspectors for the Fire Marshal’s Office**
- **Remodel of Plans Checking for the new members to the division**
- **Building and Implementing the ADAPT program within Albuquerque Fire Rescue Fire Marshal’s Office**
- **Working with city DTI to build an Arc GIS system to gather all information from different city departments for the ADAPT program**
- **Building new relationships with the Planning Department, APD, Solid Waste, Environmental Health, and City Legal**
- **Implementing the IFSAC Inspector I course throughout FMO**
- **Implementing the False Alarm Reduction Unit to start fining business for excessive false alarms**



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Fire Marshal’s Office is serving the community in many different ways. This includes working with Safer New Mexico car seat program inspecting the installation of car seats, fire code and life safety regulations at motion picture productions, fireworks shows, and blasting sites. The office also provides public education programs year round geared toward children, seniors, and businesses including fire evacuation planning and drills, safety talks, and extinguisher training. The Fire Marshal’s office encourages all citizens and visitors in the city of Albuquerque to utilize these great resources. The goal of the Fire Marshal’s Office is to protect the lives and property of our citizens through proactive fire inspections and education programs while serving the citizens of Albuquerque with professionalism and respect. Albuquerque Fire Rescue Fire Marshal’s Office looks forward to working with you in 2019.

<b>FMO REVENUE</b>	
<b>INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS</b>	<b>\$846,754.00</b>
<b>OVERTIME FEES</b>	<b>\$72,596.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$919,350.00</b>

<b>ICC CERTIFIED INSPECTORS</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>IFSAC CERTIFIED INSPECTORS</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>SCHOOLS INSPECTED</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>EXITING BUILDINGS INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>4,540</b>
<b>FINAL INSPECTIONS, NEW CONST.</b>	<b>3,200</b>
<b>CHILDREN TAUGHT IN FIRE SAFETY</b>	<b>17,312</b>
<b>COMMUNITY MEMBERS EDUCATED</b>	<b>26,641</b>

# ABANDONED and DILAPIDATED ABATEMENT PROPERTY TEAM (ADAPT)

The Abandoned and Dilapidated Abatement Property Team (ADAPT) is a new division of the Fire Marshal's Office that was developed by Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR), with the help of the City of Albuquerque Administration and the City of Albuquerque Planning Department. ADAPT's team consists of a Captain Michael J. Martinez, Lieutenant Eric Gonzales, Inspector Luis Saavedra, Inspector Joe Salazar, Attorney Andrew Coon, Paralegal Isabel Martinez, and Administrative Assistant Diana Soto. The team is tasked with identifying and addressing nuisance properties throughout the city that are abandoned or occupied, dilapidated, substandard, and undeveloped that have a pattern of serious criminal activity and/or pose an immediate public safety threat.

Utilizing the ArcGIS mapping system, ADAPT is able to compile and filter information from the data systems of AFR, Albuquerque Police Department (APD), Code Enforcement Division (CED), and also works with the city's Environmental Health Department, Building and Safety Department, Department of Human Rights, Solid Waste, 311 and referrals, to identify problem properties. ADAPT's goal is to help the property owner improve their property, so that it is safer for the community and enhances economic development. ADAPT does this by performing a comprehensive inspection of the property, with the above city departments, and identifies areas that need to be improved. The information from the inspection is compiled into a Nuisance and Abatement Agreement (NAA), that informs the property owner of the corrections needed to reform their property.



**MICHAEL MARTINEZ**  
ADAPT CAPTAIN

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES JUNE - DEC. 2019

- ADAPT has looked at 235 properties.
- 28 properties have been brought into the program.
- 10 properties have improved their conditions and have been removed from the program.
- 6 properties have had a full ADAPT inspection with AFR, APD and CED. NAA's are being drawn up.
- 5 properties have NAAs written up, that are being negotiated.
- 7 properties have received a notice letter and are being scheduled for a full ADAPT inspection.
- 9 properties have had a preliminary inspection and are being researched to possibly bring into the program.

## SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2 ADAPT members became Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) certified.
- Created a referral system in SharePoint for field units that should be coming on line soon.
- Updated Structurally Compromised SOG to identify and label structurally compromised buildings.
- Participated in several One Community Outreach events, with other city departments, to help the community after a traumatic event.
- Trained APD, CED, Environmental Health, and FMO on the ADAPT program and how to use ArcGIS, with several more scheduled for the beginning of the year.



ADAPT Preliminary Inspections	
Property Types	Inspections
Multifamily	82
Non-Residential	73
Residential	49
Undeveloped	17
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>221</b>

# PLANS CHECKING DIVISION

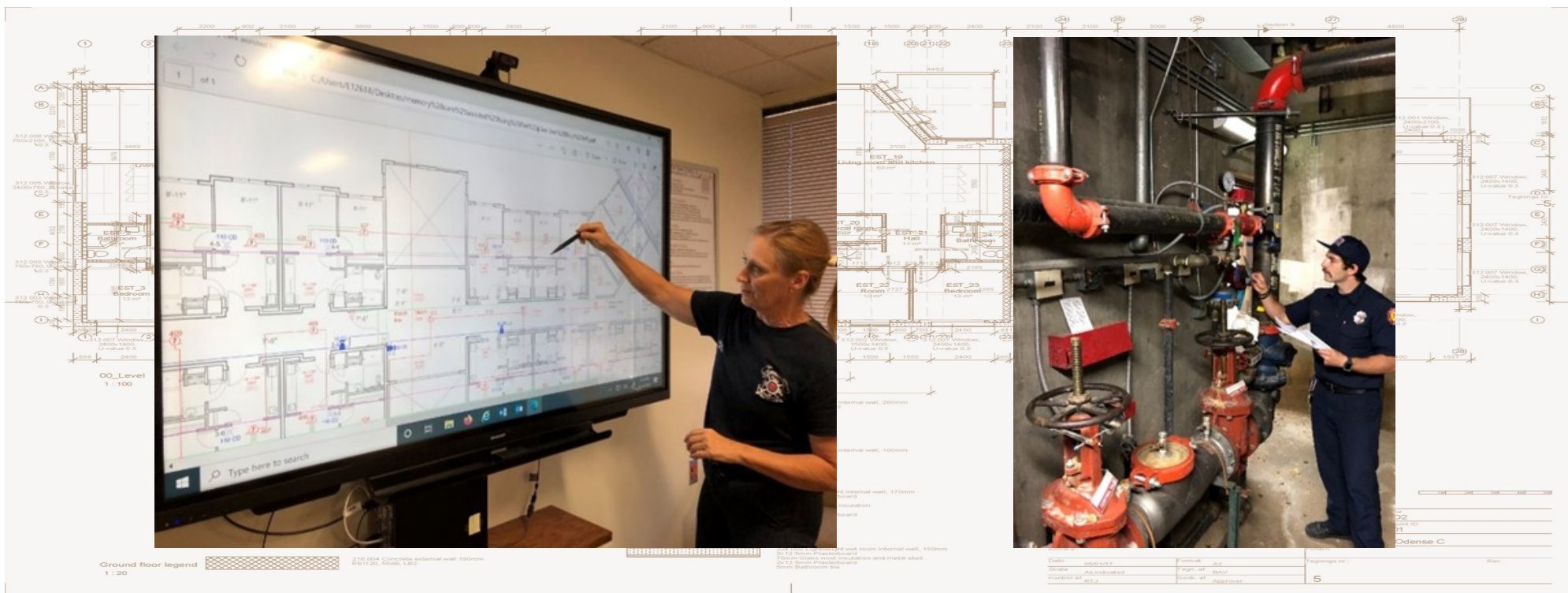
Plans Checking Division performs fire code review and approval of architectural plans for various complex occupancies such as large public assemblies, buildings which store or use hazardous materials, high-rise buildings, large commercial or industrial developments, schools, and large residential developments. To ensure compliance with the International Fire Code and NFPA Standards, the Plans Checking Division reviews plans for construction and renovation projects involving installation of Life Safety Systems such as, sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, hood suppression systems, standpipes, fire pumps, means of egress components, and all fire service building features. This process is completed by a final inspection of the completed project to verify construction is in accordance with all approved plans.

***Plans Checking Division reviewed over 3,200 plans with a limited staff of seven personnel and one administrative assistant this year. To improve efficiency, the AFR Plans Checking Division added a new Captain and four new Driver***

With eleven sworn members and one assistant, we expect to dramatically improve our turnaround times for all plan's reviewed and final inspection. Once the additional staffing is trained and operating, we anticipate initial plans reviews will go from a seven-day turnaround, to a three-day turnaround and final inspection from a fourteen-day wait, to a two to three day wait in the New Year.



**CLINT WENSLEY  
PLANS CHECKING  
CAPTAIN**



# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Fire investigators take over when flames are extinguished – and that’s when their jobs have just begun. The Fire Investigations program is responsible to the community by providing professional fire investigations, and the subsequent adjudication and prosecution of those suspected of the crime of arson. The Fire Investigations Division also determines the origin and cause of all major fires in the jurisdiction – this includes all fires where an explosion, death, or significant injuries occur. Fire investigation, sometimes referred to as origin and cause investigation, is the analysis of fire-related incidents. After firefighters extinguish a fire, an investigation is launched to determine the origin and cause of the fire or explosion.

Investigations of such incidents require a systematic approach based on the scientific method, which includes knowledge of basic fire science. Fire scene investigators require an understanding of both fire chemistry and fire dynamics. In some complex cases, there are issues other than whether the fire was intentionally set or not. These cases tend to address far more issues involving fire spread, the performance of fire protection systems, and issues involving responsibility and/or liability for the fire.

AFD’s Fire Investigation Division is a team of highly-trained investigators who provide expertise in the investigation of fires and fire related incidents to determine the best course of action, fire prevention education, or prosecution. Fire investigations are processed as quickly as possible in an effort to get accurate information to present to the courts for prosecution, or to refer people in need of other resources. This quick and professional response allows for speedy recovery of loss as a result of fire. The Fire Investigations Office is staffed by a shift Lieutenant and Driver on all three shifts. It also has an administrative assistant, Quality Assurance officer at the rank of Lieutenant, and a Captain on the 40 hour schedule.



**RAMON MARTINEZ**  
ARSON CAPTAIN



## 2019 ARSON UPDATES

- The Fire Investigations Division welcomed two new members into our office, Lt. Doug Padilla and Dr. Oscar Vasquez. Both graduated at the top of their class at the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy. In December both completed the Essentials Arson class at the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg Maryland.
- To add to the division credentials and improve service to the community, four Investigators attended NFPA 1033 training in Santa Fe, NM and successfully test for and receive their CFEI (Certified Fire and Explosives Investigator) certification from NAFI (National Association of Fire Investigators).
- AFR Fire Investigations teamed up with the Auto Theft Unit of the Office of Superintendent of Insurance and will operate as their fire experts. We were sworn in and now have state wide jurisdiction to operate throughout the New Mexico with the Auto Theft Unit.
- Lt. Josh Jaramillo and Dr. Ron Gunderson became TFOs with Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Lt. Jaramillo also obtained his Firearms Instructor Certification and is now able to assist with firearms qualifications as well as DPS mandated trainings throughout the year.
- The K9 Division was busy in its first full year of operation and has responded to 19 calls, 9 of which were for outside agencies on both the State and Federal side. Investigator Gunderson and Wheezy flew out to Boston for their annual ATF accelerant detection canine recertification. Some modifications to our office were made to accommodate our new furball teammate. Utilizing grant moneys that was part of Driver Schums efforts, Wheezy now has a K9 bath station and a Connex box to hold all of her food and training gear.
- Both Arson units were outfitted with camper shells in order to keep our PPE out of the elements and maintain the integrity and security of the equipment use on all scenes being investigated
- Arson revamped the red “After the Fire” folder to contain 1 English and 1 Spanish FEMA after the fire pamphlet, 2 Locker 505 referral forms, 2 YFAP referral forms, and 3 new property release forms.
- The YFAP program officially opened its doors and at the close of the inaugural year we had 8 youth firesetters enter into our program. AFR is excited to have the a youth program dedicated to helping educate the children of our community and help keep them from going down the wrong path.
- Arson teamed up with Locker 505 to collect socks for needy children that utilize the nonprofit clothing bank. We championed the Fire Departments first ever “SOCKTOBER” and were able to collect and donate a total of 7,087 pairs of socks. This is just one more program showing how dedicated AFR is to the community it services.
- National Average closure rate – 16% and 2019 AFR closure rate – 43%





# ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## PHILIP L. HALL

Home remodeler Philip L. Hall, 22, of Albuquerque, N.M., was inside his apartment April 29, 2018, when he heard his neighbor scream for help and saw her 2-year-old great grandson, Kierre Caldwell-Smith, trapped between a burning tent and a fence.

Wearing only shorts, Hall exited his first-floor window and quickly scaled two 6-foot, chain-link fences. With his course blocked by growing and spreading flames, Hall then scaled two more fences to bring himself closer to Kierre, albeit on the opposite side of the fence.

While standing on debris near the fence and pulling the top of the fence toward him, Hall reached over the fence and grasped Kierre's arm. Hall then lost his grip and Kierre fell into the flames. Hall leaned over the fence farther, extending his upper body into the flames to grasp the boy and lift him over the fence and carry him to safety.

Kierre suffered severe burns to 55 percent of his body and was hospitalized for nearly three months. He continues to recover. Hall was hospitalized and underwent rehabilitation for nearly four months for treatment of second- and third-degree burns to more than 55 percent of his body. He recovered.

Mr. Hall was nominated by AFR for the Carnegie Medal. This medal, the highest honor for civilian heroism in the U.S. and Canada, is awarded to people who risk their lives while trying to save others from a life threatening situation. On December 16, 2019, Philip Hall was one of only eighteen individuals awarded this medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. Philip received a financial grant along with his medal.



*The incident site after firefighters were able to extinguish the fire.*



*In December of 2018, Philip was also recognized by Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller and Albuquerque Fire Rescue Chief Paul Dow for his actions.*

# 2019 PROMOTIONS | AWARDS | ACCOMPLISHMENTS | RETIREMENTS

We gather several times a year to recognize the accomplishments of our firefighters. There are several milestones within a career in the fire service and it is important to recognize our members that go above and beyond, take steps to be the next leaders and have dedicated their career to serving our community.

## 2019 PROMOTIONS

*Battalion Chief Nathaniel Meisner  
Battalion Chief Joe Lopez*

*Captain Alejandro Marrufo  
Captain Will McMullen  
Captain Christopher Sotelo  
Captain Justin Mesch  
Captain Steven Stratmoen  
Captain Andrew West  
Captain Kathryn Basile  
Captain Jacob Goeveling*

*Lieutenant Athena Valerio-Hirschfeld  
Lieutenant David Baca  
Lieutenant Matthew Burnham  
Lieutenant Dominic Gallegos  
Lieutenant Mark Lueras  
Lieutenant Justin Cheney  
Lieutenant Adrian Breen  
Lieutenant James Goodwin  
Lieutenant Justin Craig  
Lieutenant Raul Trujillo  
Lieutenant Thomas Routson  
Lieutenant Andres Montoya  
Lieutenant Jerrad Luciani  
Lieutenant Joshua Jaramillo  
Lieutenant Michael Trujillo  
Lieutenant Samuel Lucero*

*Driver Dustyn Powers  
Driver Clint McPeck  
Driver Eric Adair  
Driver Alex Kimball  
Driver Diego Padilla  
Driver Kyle Frederickson  
Driver Jesse Bolan  
Driver Brandon Maloney  
Driver Stephen Likovic  
Driver David Meyers  
Driver Tiffany Johnson  
Driver Jefferey Forney  
Driver Alex Schifano  
Driver Stephen Siebert  
Driver Kyle Stephenson  
Driver Geoffrey Garcia  
Driver John Rasmussen  
Driver Antonio Romero  
Driver Leef Crawford  
Driver Michael Fernandez  
Driver Daniel Murphy  
Driver Fabian Holguin  
Driver Alejandro Aragon  
Driver Christopher Northup*

## RETIREMENTS

*Battalion Chief Christopher Venghaus  
Battalion Chief Jeremiah Hansen  
Captain Arthur Martinez  
Captain Matthew Ortega  
Captain Patrick Romero  
Lieutenant Phil Sanchez  
Lieutenant Steve Hill  
Lieutenant Mario Rosato  
Lieutenant Edward Nieto  
Lieutenant Daniel Sanchez  
Lieutenant Christopher Quintana  
Driver Brian Wester  
Driver Emiliano Chavez  
Driver Julian Alderete  
Driver Michael Sanchez  
Driver Josh Munson  
Driver Manual Zamora  
Driver Matthew Wolf  
Driver Michael Royce  
Driver Michael Jiron  
Driver Rick Suazo  
Firefighter Randolph Crews  
Firefighter Layne Nakasone*

## AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

*2019 IAFF Local 244 Firefighter of the Year – Driver David Rettinger  
2019 AFR Fire Station of the Year – Fire Station 4 (A-Shift)  
2019 AFR Support Division of the Year – Training Academy  
Lieutenant Jason Ramirez – Completed the National Fire Academy Managing Fire Officer Program*



# CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Fire Chief Paul Dow

Captain Kris Romero, AFR

Driver David Rettinger, AFR

## PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Lieutenant Tom Ruiz, AFR PIO

Driver David Rettinger, AFR

Lt. Jason Fejer

IAFF Local 244

Unless noted otherwise, all photos of AFR personnel are property of Albuquerque Fire Rescue.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Deputy Chief Emily Jaramillo

Deputy Chief David Mowery, AFR

Lieutenant Tom Ruiz, AFR PIO

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*Thank you to all members of AFR for helping to contribute pictures and video to the Public Affairs Office on almost a daily basis. Documenting the outstanding work we have the privilege of performing helps to share our story outside of the fire department and serves as a historical record for the future.*

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