



THE REVUE



Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – Sept 10, 2021

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"No day shall erase you from the memory of time."

– Virgil Quote 9/11 Memorial



The Chief's Desk

Below are the remarks I will make at the Healing Field on Saturday as part of the closing. Hope you can make it to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

Tonight, hearing Steve's words regarding his friend, reminds me that each of the flags on this field represents a real person. A person that had family and friends who to this day still feel the pain of their loss. We honor these men, women, and children with the red, white, and blue of our country as a symbol of freedom and strength – they are the colors that adorn *our* American Flag. It is a flag that has flown on many battlefields around the world, a flag that serves as a tribute to all who have fought and died for our country, a flag that flew proudly as FDNY members returned it to glory after it had been knocked down on 9/11. There is an amazing picture captured at Ground Zero of three of New York's bravest hoisting the flag back to its rightful place – flying high and proud. 20 years has passed, and yet that image is still etched in my memory.

Those firefighters did not walk over our flag, they did not ignore our flag lying amongst the rubble; rather, they knelt down - carefully picked it up, and lifted it back into the sky where it belonged – they did not know at the time what their efforts would come to symbolize for our nation in the following hours, days, weeks, months, and years. They knelt down just long enough to pick our flag up off the ground in a sign of deep respect for what it stands for. Those men exemplified what it means to be a true American!

We, those of us here tonight, treat our flag and our country with the same respect as those firefighters. I have to say, I just could not bring myself to cheer for our Olympic soccer team this year. They wore the colors of our country to promote themselves and their status while kneeling as a sign of disrespect to our country and all those represented on this field next to us here tonight. They showed disrespect to our military members who have fought, sacrificed, and the many who have died protecting us. To our military members in the audience tonight both past and present – for what it's worth, you have my deepest respect. Finally, they showed disrespect for each of us – the American people.

20 years ago today we stood in utter shock and dismay at what was unfolding in our nation. An attack the likes of which we had not witnessed since Pearl Harbor. I was a fire captain on duty at Fire Station 3 in St. Charles, MO when my wife sent me a page asking me to call her (for those younger in the crowd tonight, that was texting before there was texting). When she answered the phone, she told me to turn on the news. I turned the TV on in time to see the second plane hit. We backed our engine into the station and sat glued to the news for the remainder of the day watching, waiting, and mourning. Like many of you, we did not know what might come next.

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Upcoming Events:

Sept 13: Policy Meeting,
Presumptive Cancer Meeting,
Physical Therapy
Sept 14: Vacation Day
Sept 15: PT, PVEDF Board
Meeting
Sept 16: AFCA/AFDA Admin
Group meeting

Board Meetings:

Sept 27 Administration
CAFMA – 1700-1830

Nearly 2 decades after 9/11, a former firefighter sees the NYC memorial for the first time

By: Candy Woodall

Michael Silvestri dipped his fingers into the flowing water and made the sign of the cross, from his forehead to his broken heart.

The waters here, in the South Pool of New York City's 9/11 Memorial, are like holy water, he said.

"It's sacred. It's their graves," Silvestri said.

His cross was also a silent prayer for the strength he needed to stand at this memorial for the first time.

Faith had helped Silvestri, now 59, get this far.

The former firefighter survived 9/11 two decades ago, but he's been fighting for his life ever since.

Silvestri moved to Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, more than a decade ago to get away from all the reminders on Staten Island. He was haunted by painful memories, undiagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder and the survivor's guilt that devoured him alive. It culminated in 10 seconds of rage 16 months after 9/11 that nearly cost him everything, followed by years of the slow path toward healing, the hard work of turning survival to rebirth.

goerie.com

From the darkest days at Ground Zero emerge signs of honor, hope, resilience

By: Janelle Foskett

Retired FDNY Firefighter Lee Ielpi had been working the pile for three months. Along with countless other firefighters, volunteers and other workers, Ielpi slogged through the wreckage. He was there for recovery – any body part, any item of significance to the families of the individuals murdered on September 11. But mostly, he was looking for his son.

Jonathan Ielpi, a firefighter with Squad 228, was killed in the collapse of the Twin Towers. The entire squad gone.

Amid his work to capture and memorialize World Trade Center steel, Ielpi searched for Jonathan.

FAMILY INTUITION

On Dec. 11, after another long day of searching the pile, Ielpi decided around 9:30 p.m. to head home to Long Island. At 11:30, now at home, the phone rang. It was the deputy chief in charge of the recovery site for the night.

“And with a very pleasing voice, a happy voice, he said, ‘Lee, we got Jon.’”

He had been waiting for this moment, news he could bring his son home.

Ielpi was preparing to drive back into the city when an unexpected visitor arrived at the house.

“It’s maybe 12 o’clock and who walks in the door but Brendan,” Ielpi recalls of the surprising sight of his other son, an FDNY probationary firefighter. “Now I’m not overly religious by any stretch. I believe in God ... but Brendan was living over in another town. He walks in the door, and I look at him and said, ‘What are you doing here? Did you hear?’ He said, ‘No, I didn’t hear anything. I just felt like I wanted to leave the house and come into Great Neck; I just felt like I had to come in.’”

Ielpi told Brendan the news about his brother, and they headed to Manhattan.

“It was a very mixed emotion,” Ielpi recalled, “because now the wife and the kids all realize that we’re going to be bringing Jonathan home, and then driving in and trying to just prepare yourself for what it’s going to be. How is he? It was a very difficult ride-in.”

firerescue1.com

Chief’s Desk Continued

The shock of that day turned to a feeling of anger towards those who would attack our country and kill so many innocent people. That anger against a common enemy drove a patriotism like I had never experienced before. We were united as one. The sense of service to our communities and to our country was overwhelming. The sleeping giant was awake and we were not going to allow these terrorists and their supporters to go unpunished. We were awake and we would stay awake as a nation for some time.

Ladies and gentlemen, just my opinion, but here we are 20 years later taking another snooze - dishonoring the memory of those these flags represent and all who have sacrificed since. I’ve said it every year at this event, and I will say it again this year – we can, we should, we need to do better. It’s almost as if someone has slipped the sleeping giant some sleeping aids. We seem lost in a fog of fear and discontent. Unfortunately, the current attacks are coming from inside our own country – those elected into positions of power are today attacking our freedoms, our liberties, and our patriotism – and we are letting them do it. As a side note, I’ve been trying to get a helicopter for our Agency for years, but it has been too cost prohibitive. I understand now that the United States is giving them away for free – just unfortunate that our government is giving them away to terrorists instead.

If we do not wake up – NOT WOKE – if we do not wake up, we will sleep ourselves into something for which we will have to fight our way out and it will be right here in our own backyard. We are being divided through manipulation by unwarranted fear and anger. We see it in our grocery stores, restaurants, and on our streets – people are just not nice to each other – and over what??? Because we think differently, or make different choices? To quote someone – or something – Dude, be nice! Fear is

not healthy, so turn off the news, understand that risks are an inherent part of being alive, and that we cannot truly live if we simply cower, allowing all life has to offer just pass by.

I'll admit, I've been in a bit of a funk lately, feeling we have lost our way. I had not watched the news in a while, but I had been watching people and their daily interactions with each other. Fortunately, I was able to get away last weekend and relax on the river, just outside of Lake Havasu. You know what I saw? I saw more American Flags flying than I have ever witnessed on a lake. It didn't seem to matter your stature in life, the American Flag was flying high! You know what that means? We are still here and we will rise!

I also saw a lot of blue line flags, and I watched as boaters, along with people on the beaches, showed respect to the law enforcement officers patrolling the waters. That, my friends, is how we do things in America! To my LEO friends in the audience tonight, you have my deepest respect and gratitude – I will not turn my back on you and I will not shy away from publicly showing my support! Yes, I will make jokes about you on occasion, but that is out of love.

I believe that one of the problems we are facing as a country is that we are electing and being governed by two extremes – left and right. It's not unlike Twix candy bars, i.e. the left and the right Twix, "Pick a side." There is no difference between the two. The same can be said for left and right extremism, they're both toxic. Those in the middle trying to moderate and focus on what is best for our state, and our country, are being relegated to obscurity. Step one, vote better... Rule one, if you are deceased, your voting rights are revoked. Rule two, you only get one vote – seems obvious.

We need to stop battling and get back to collaborating. Those who built this country may have battled each other, but it was in an effort to reach a collaborative resolution – that is what American Patriots do!

We still live in the greatest country on the planet. People will swim across the ocean in hopes of tasting just a bit of the freedom we enjoy. I do not see many people swimming across an ocean, a river, or even standing at a checkpoint on our northern border trying to escape the United States – despite what Hollywood keeps promising. Honestly, if you want to leave that badly, we have people that will help you pack 😊 Just saying...

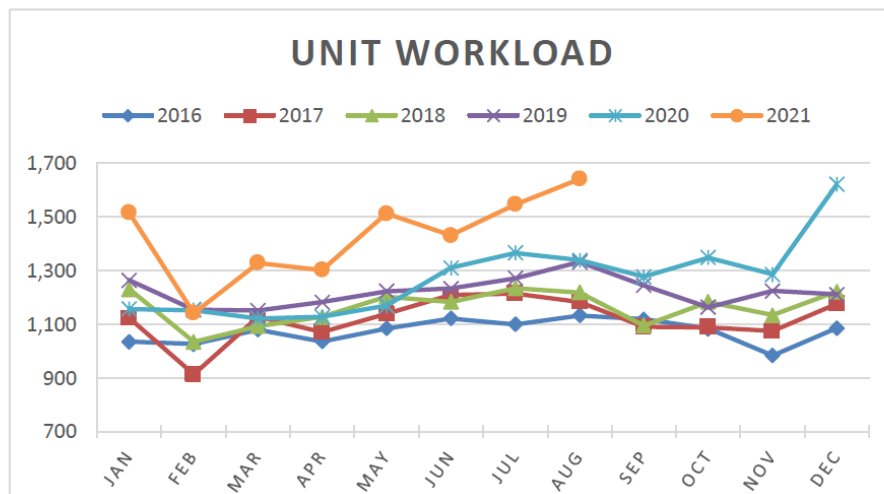
For all of you here tonight, keep your head up, good things lie ahead for us as long as we do the work and come together no matter our disagreements.

Finally, we said we would never forget. You are here this evening, so it is clear to me that you have not forgotten. That said, do a gut check.... Is tonight the same as you attending church once a year on Easter, or do you live your best life day-in and day-out in honor of those who have given their lives so we can be free? It's been 20 years since so many innocent lives were lost, heroes who gave their all whether they were firefighters, EMS, LEO, military, or the person sitting in an office who tried to guide others to safety. We cannot, we will not, forget them. Live, *really* live, each day with a sense that you are in the service of those you come in contact with. It is that sense of service to others that will truly help you remember what 9/11 should mean to each of us. And, if you want that sense of pride in our country carried forward, pass it on to those who were not alive on 9/11.

August Response Report

By: GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman

Unit Workload History						
(RESPONSES BY TYPE-1 ENGINES)						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	1,034	1,123	1,231	1,263	1,157	1,516
Feb	1,026	913	1,034	1,155	1,152	1,141
Mar	1,080	1,128	1,093	1,151	1,121	1,328
Apr	1,036	1,071	1,127	1,182	1,127	1,302
May	1,084	1,138	1,203	1,223	1,169	1,512
Jun	1,121	1,208	1,183	1,233	1,310	1,431
Jul	1,099	1,214	1,234	1,271	1,366	1,546
Aug	1,132	1,183	1,218	1,332	1,338	1,641
Sep	1,118	1,091	1,095	1,245	1,277	
Oct	1,083	1,088	1,183	1,163	1,348	
Nov	983	1,074	1,134	1,224	1,285	
Dec	1,085	1,177	1,222	1,211	1,622	
AVG	1,073	1,117	1,163	1,221	1,273	1,427
TOTAL	12,881	13,408	13,957	14,653	15,272	11,417





August Response Report - 2021

Land Area: 369 sq. miles Population: ≈106,500 Fire Stations: 10 Full-Staffed

Responses in District

TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	11
STRUCTURE FIRE	2
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	3
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	1
VEHICLE FIRE	1
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	1
TRASH FIRE/OTHER	4

Fire is 0.77% of call volume

TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	951
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EMS is 66.78% of call volume

OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	1
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	14
SERVICE CALL	265
GOOD INTENT	141
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	41

Other is 32.44% of call volume

TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,424
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,550

Residential Fire Loss	\$26,000
Commercial Fire Loss	\$0
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$5,000

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	210
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	727
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	69
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	418
Calls Out of District	8

Average total # of calls per day	45.94
Average fire calls per day	0.36
Average EMS calls per day	30.68
Average all other calls per day	14.90

Aid Given to Prescott	161
Aid Received from Prescott	87
Mutual Aid Given	0
Mutual Aid Received	0

Unit Responses

	In District	Total
E50	158	170
E51	40	197
E53	242	217
E540	46	48
E54	165	166
E57	62	65
E58	201	204
E59	169	175
E61	136	138
E62	159	164
E63	63	68
TR50	1	2
B3	57	66
B6	28	30

Call Volume at PRCC

	MONTH	YTD
PFD	895	6,531
CAFMA	1,424	9,713
GCFD	16	87
OD	9	73
WKFD	4	31

Top 5 Call Types

881	EMS
124	Assist Invalid
85	Cancelled en Route
57	Public Service
28	Vehicle Accident w/Injuries

Move Ups

E50: 41	E57: 4
E51: 70	E61: 15
E53: 5	E62: 20
E54: 1	E63: 36
E58: 1	E540: 19
E59: 3	TOTAL: 215

