



# THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – **March 10, 2023**

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**"Lazy people do little work and think they should be winning. Winners work as hard as possible and still worry if they're being lazy."**

Lewis Cavalla

[\*\*The CAFMA Connect YouTube Channel – Like, Subscribe, Watch, and Learn\*\*](#)

Sometimes, those who want to bring you down,  
don't know you're the reason they're standing.



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## The Chief's Desk

We completed our fourth of five guided strategic engagement sessions with all our internal folks. Those who missed the sessions will have an opportunity to provide input using the same questions and format, but without the facilitator. So far, I think we've captured some good input that can be used as we work to create a road map for the next three years.

Based on the input so far, it seems the three-year staffing plan that we submitted for consideration to the Board addresses some of the challenges we see both today and on the horizon. Recruiting for those positions, as many have pointed out, will be difficult given both the lack of and cost of housing in our area. While we're working with developers and other partners to develop a viable plan for attainable housing, it doesn't help today.

Working with Senior Staff and Kathy, we've developed a one sheet explanation of some of the challenges we're facing and our plan to address them, i.e., hire more people in new positions. Earlier this week I started meeting with local elected officials and community leaders to discuss our plan and the corresponding tax implications. As you're aware, for us to add new positions, we must recommend a tax rate increase to the Board. This next fiscal year we project that we would need .08 to .10 cents on top of collecting all of the NAV increase to start funding positions, address paramedic pay, improve the Post Employment Health Plan (PEHP), keep the lights on, and fuel the engines. That, folks, is not a great message to relay, but it's one that needs to be shared.

We're also working on a Wage and Benefit Study for the 2024/2025 budget year. Again, there will need to be an increase to cover needed COLAs, along with additional positions. Our hope is that we're successful with our SAFER Grant application so the pay for the new positions can be integrated over three years rather than all in year one. Thanks to Shaun and Ben, our narratives have been reviewed by IAFF staff and returned. I'll be honest, our narratives need work based on the feedback.

Unfortunately, the SAFER Grant deadline is March 17, so it will be a scramble to get the document cleaned up and ready for prime time. I leave for Utah today for a week right after I send this out. Chief Tharp leaves Monday for some time away with his kids over Spring Break. We'll be thrashing on this from remote locations, but we'll get it done and submitted on time. We'll probably put a lot of extra pressure on Chief Feddema, just for fun.

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### **Upcoming Events:**

May 10-18 – Chief on Vacation  
in Utah

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### **Board Meeting:**

March 27: Administration  
Joint Board Training – 1500-  
1600  
CVFD – 1600-1630  
CYFD – 1630-1700  
CAFMA – 1700-1830

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## **Fire investigation into blaze that killed Buffalo Firefighter Jason Arno nears completion**

By: Sandra Tan

Investigators of the fatal fire that killed Buffalo firefighter Jason Arno say it may not look like it from the outside, but a lot of work has been done to determine what caused the blaze.

And they may be able to say as soon as next week what that cause was.

Careful excavation of the basement and first floors of the structure, built around 1900, has been ongoing, and more than 100 interviews have been conducted in the search for what started the fire, said Walter Shaw, branch chief of the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"We're continuing to do neighborhood canvasses to collect any video that may show events leading up to fire and after the fire so that we can create an accurate timeline of the fire event," Shaw said, estimating that the investigation should be finished by next week.

The investigation of the March 1 fire is more than half over, and a fire research lab in Maryland is working on creating a computer model showing how the fire spread and grew. Because heavy wood beams and joists that supported the building floors were damaged by the fire, special care was taken to shore up the lower-level floors so that the building was safe enough for fire officials to enter, he said.

Investigators have been looking into the possibility that renovation work being done on the exterior of the Theatre District building may have sparked the fire. Workers were using blow torches on masonry and bricks at 745 Main St. before the fire was reported Wednesday morning, Fire Chief William Renaldo previously said. The building, which housed DC Theatricks, a costume maker, was purchased late last year by developer and former Rep. Chris Jacobs.

[firerescue1](#)

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## **The Chief's Desk Cont.**

Last time we completed a staffing plan, Chief Polacek and Chief Bliss were still working. We created a five-year plan that ended just over a year ago. We were successful in filling all planned positions over the five years. That plan, like this one, added both Operations and Non-Operations positions. The difference between the current three-year plan and the previous five-year plan is that our community has grown exponentially, requiring us to be more aggressive with adding personnel. In our opinion, these positions are a need, not a want; however, ultimately, it's the community that drives what level of service they want to have when they call 911. We provide recommendations based on our data, but it is the community that decides yay or nay based on how much they are willing to fund.

We had a very productive Labor-Management meeting this week. There was a lot of dialogue about funding, staffing needs, paramedic pay, PEHP, etc. The draft minutes should be available for Union VP

Shaun Jones in short order. We hope that you all will find having the minutes from these meetings helpful. Remember, these meetings are open so anyone can attend – same with our monthly Board meetings.

There's a tremendous amount of information available to you as CAFMA members. I know Shaun sends correspondence from the Chapter on a regular basis, including minutes from the Labor-Management meetings. The minutes of the Board meetings are public and available online. You can attend Board meetings and hear the conversations directly, should you choose. You're emailed *The Review* every week, as well as the podcast. And many of you have phone numbers for Senior Staff, have our emails, and/or have the ability to direct questions through the company officers or battalion chiefs. In short, all of you have the opportunity to be very well informed regarding what's happening within our organization.

If we want to be successful in securing the positions we need, maintaining a level of competitiveness in the market, and ensuring long term sustainability, we need community support. That support is largely driven from the grassroots level. This means we need you to know and understand the challenges, recommended solutions, and the overall plan going forward so you can talk with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Yes, it's important that I speak with, solicit input from, and try to inform elected officials and community leaders. They have a very large platform to speak from in support or against our efforts. But, in reality, the largest majority of the votes for or against us is from those with whom you have the closest contact. We lost Prop 310 because we did not do a good enough job getting our message out. Let's learn from that and make sure we're communicating our message to our constituents regarding what support we need to meet the growing demand for service, and our need to recruit and retain the top talent.

One final note, in my conversations so far, I've had community leaders who have taken Fire Ops 101 voice support for our efforts because they now understand why staffing is so important. The program has outperformed for us thanks to the efforts of the Union and each one of you that volunteer. That said, we've struggled to secure volunteers over the last few years. Please, take the time to come out and work with our participants. If we want their support, we need to show them what we do.

It's going to take the entire CAFMA team to ensure the safety of our community and secure our future.

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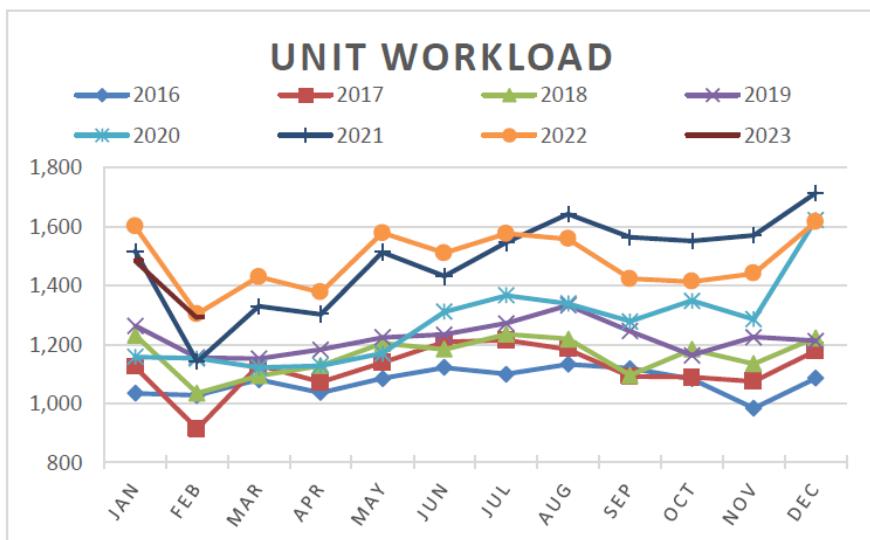
## **February Call Reports**

**By: GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman**

## Unit Workload History

(RESPONSES BY TYPE-1 ENGINES)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	1,034	1,123	1,231	1,263	1,157	1,516	1,600	<b>1,483</b>
Feb	1,026	913	1,034	1,155	1,152	1,141	1,303	1,289
Mar	1,080	1,128	1,093	1,151	1,121	1,328	1,428	
Apr	1,036	1,071	1,127	1,182	1,127	1,302	1,376	
May	1,084	1,138	1,203	1,223	1,169	1,512	1,577	
Jun	1,121	1,208	1,183	1,233	1,310	1,431	1,509	
Jul	1,099	<b>1,214</b>	<b>1,234</b>	1,271	1,366	1,546	1,575	
Aug	<b>1,132</b>	1,183	1,218	<b>1,332</b>	1,338	1,641	1,557	
Sep	1,118	1,091	1,095	1,245	1,277	1,563	1,422	
Oct	1,083	1,088	1,183	1,163	1,348	1,551	1,413	
Nov	983	1,074	1,134	1,224	1,285	1,570	1,440	
Dec	1,085	1,177	1,222	1,211	<b>1,622</b>	<b>1,713</b>	<b>1,615</b>	
AVG	1,073	1,117	1,163	1,221	1,273	1,485	1,485	1,386
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,881</b>	<b>13,408</b>	<b>13,957</b>	<b>14,653</b>	<b>15,272</b>	<b>17,814</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>2,772</b>





## February Response Report - 2023

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

### Responses in District

TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	8
STRUCTURE FIRE	0
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	1
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	1
VEHICLE FIRE	2
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	3
TRASH FIRE/OTHER	1
<i>Fire is 0.74% of call volume</i>	
TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	749
<i>EMS is 68.91% of call volume</i>	
OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	15
SERVICE CALL	195
GOOD INTENT	86
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	34
<i>Other is 30.36% of call volume</i>	
TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,087
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,192
TYPE-1 UNIT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,289

Unit Responses				
Unit	District	Total	Move Up	
E50	121	129	22	TYPE-1 ENGINES
E51	27	159	39	
E53	168	169	8	
E540	43	48	24	
E54	141	142	0	
E57	52	53	0	
E58	143	143	2	
E59	142	145	0	
E61	117	120	14	
E62	120	124	2	
E63	48	50	35	
TR50	3	5	0	
B3	56	60	0	
B6	22	22	0	
Rescues	21	21	0	

### Fire Loss Summary

Residential Fire Loss	\$3,050
Commercial Fire Loss	\$0
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$4,500

### Top 5 Call Types

705	EMS
125	Assist Invalid
48	Cancelled en Route
37	Public Service
22	No Incident Found on Arrival

### Call Volume at PRCC

	Month	Year-to-Date
PFD	768	1,662
CAFMA	1,087	2,314
GCFD	10	22
OD	7	16
WKFD	1	3

### Calls by Municipality

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	192
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	561
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	40
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	294
Calls Out of District	5

### Aid Agreement Summary

Aid Given to Prescott	124
Aid Received from Prescott	63
Aid Given to WVFD	0
Aid Received from WVFD	6
Mutual Aid Given	0
Mutual Aid Received	0

