



THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – **May 5, 2023**

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"Life's short, eat more tacos!"

Everyone

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The Chief's Desk

It's been about two weeks since we submitted our updated response protocols to PRCC. We submitted very similar protocols in November right before Thanksgiving, however they were never implemented. The little bit of feedback I've received is that things are going better. No, they're not perfect, and quite honestly nothing ever is, so I'll take better for right now.

PRCC is working with TriTech, the CAD vendor, on a plan to have them reprogram the system to track and choose the ambulances based on ALS or BLS and proximity to the call. Additionally, they'll be switching the CAD link from a two-way link to a one-way link. This means that AMR dispatch will not get the call automatically. With a one-way link they'll only get the calls to which they are specifically assigned. Once the CAD link is changed, we'll see a significant reduction in the number of units assigned to calls and our dispatchers will not have to try to cancel as many units over the air. We're hopeful that the changes will be made in the CAD system by mid-to-late May.

The City of Prescott has had a conversation with AMR regarding their units not canceling when disregarded by PRCC – essentially racing the Priority or CAFMA units to calls. I've been told that AMR has instructed their units to cancel when directed by PRCC. If they do not disregard, their manager for the area is to be notified. To that end, if you have an instance where a unit, whether AMR or Priority, is disregarded and the crew does not cancel their response, please notify Chief Niemynski as soon as possible.

Regarding our CON application, we have zero updates. A complete certified copy of our application was provided to the Bureau of EMS a couple months ago per a request from the Bureau Chief for a new copy. We've not heard anything since they received the new copy. In the meantime, we will continue our conversations with the Governor's office as well as the Attorney General's office.

I've interviewed with a couple of newspapers regarding ambulances. One with the Daily Courier which was published Wednesday morning. Thank you to Kathy for helping clarify the follow-up questions from the reporter. We also have a statewide news publication that is working on development of a bigger story delving into the issues within the state. That one could be several months out. In addition, I did an interview with AZ family on Wednesday this week, and one with an ABC radio affiliate on Thursday also related to ambulance issues.

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Upcoming Events:

May 8 – PT, Captains testing orientation with panel
May 9 – Wildfire mitigation meeting PFD and CAFMA, CFSI virtual planning meeting
May 10 – Coffee meeting, SOG meeting, Meet with AFMA Representatives, Captains promotion process AAR
May 11 – AFSI Meeting, Town of PV Department Head Meeting

Board Meeting:

Board Meeting: May 26
CVFD – 1600-1630
CYFD – 1630-1700
CAFMA – 1700-1830

Company officer tips for staying motivated on the job

By: John Buckman III

Keys to motivation include developing a vision, building a support system and changing bad behaviors

No matter how many years you spend in a leadership position on a fire department, staying motivated is the common factor among those who are high-achievers.

As a company officer, you will have to determine what motivates members of your company. This will take some effort but will pay dividends in your ability to lead people effectively. It's important to remember that everyone is different; the technique that motivates one firefighter may have little or no motivational effect on others within the same company. And what works for them may be different than what motivates you.

IDENTIFY THE "KEY-HOLDER"

One of the major frustrations for all of us is when we face roadblocks to progress that are thrown up to slow, stop or derail an idea. As a company officer, you will need to recognize those obstacles and learn how to remove them or work around them.

An essential role for a leader is to determine who at the organization holds the "key" to progress. The key is often held by one person, and they can either use their key to unlock the door to progress or keep the key in their pocket, thereby stopping you in your tracks.

DEVELOP A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

We will always face roadblocks, and part of managing them involves how we manage the outside forces that are all around us, impacting our day-to-day lives. We are all controlled by outside forces, and these outside forces actually have more control as you promote up your chain of command. Company officers who develop a vision for what they are trying to accomplish have a better chance at success, as they have more control over their own destiny. Without a clear vision, outside forces are more likely to take control of your life.

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The Chief's Desk Cont.

Kathy and I did an interview with the Arizona Republic on Tuesday afternoon. Okay, depending on how the article comes out, she may not want her name associated – I mean, you all know be by now. Filters

are not my thing especially related to ambulance issues and fire district funding. Our interview on Tuesday related fire district funding, the failure of Prop 310, and the path forward from here.

I won't bore you with the details of the unstable funding model for fire districts in this state, or how state lawmakers continually take swipes at the single source of funding we have. One of the questions asked was, "What do you think it will take to get the attention of lawmakers and voters, so they understand the financial challenges and make changes?" Will a large tragic incident get their attention? Unlikely. What about a wildfire event that wipes out a community or two for which more resources would have made a difference? Doubtful.

So, what do we need to do. First, fire districts need to continue to sound the alarm regarding our funding issues. The problem did not go away because Prop 310 failed. If we stop talking about the issue with some urgency, people will believe we really don't need the revenue, which is not the case at all. Second, the silent majority folks that are not part of the extreme right or left need to stand up and vote for candidates that understand the concept of working for the best interest of everyone in the state.

We need folks in elected office that understand that schools, public infrastructure, and emergency services, i.e., law enforcement, fire, and EMS are the areas that the government should focus funding. Think about it this way, Arizona faces a significant danger from wildfire events, yet the state only budgets \$3 million per year for wildfire response. How long do you think that money lasts? How can a state that has such a significant potential for wildfires, and one whose historical data shows a need for increased monies dedicated to wildfire response, ignore the need? It makes absolutely no sense.

If state leaders won't fund wildfire response in a state prone to wildfire (which is supported by substantial data), why would we think a large event would move our elected officials to create a sound funding model for fire districts?

For CAFMA, Prop 310 wasn't a question of do you want to fund the needed resources to provide services in our area, it was a question of how do you want to pay for said services. It was pointed out to me that there was a comment on one of our social media posts about a new engine: "I guess you didn't need Prop 310 after all." We did not respond on social media as it's not the appropriate venue; however, I can respond here. Yes, we do have three new engines that we are proud to announce will be going in service in the coming months. These were ordered two years ago and at least one is arriving just in time as Engine 51 seems determined to leave our crew stranded. Fortunately, we have a fantastic Fleet Division.

To address the comment; first, it seems to imply that we have ample monies to spend purchasing new apparatus at will. Nope, that's not the case. Our typical engines remain with the agency for 22 years or longer. For reference, agencies normally keep an engine for 20 years, so we are doing better than average. So, these new units allow us to move older units to outlying stations and move their older engines to reserve status or training. In turn, we're now able to retire and auction the oldest units in the fleet. The goal is to ensure that we have reliable equipment to service our community. So, we're not able to buy new equipment just to have something new and shiny; it's part of a carefully developed fleet replacement plan to maintain quality and reliable apparatus.

Second, because 310 did not pass, we're going to delay ordering two apparatus that were scheduled for purchase. If we ordered them today, it would be three years before they would be delivered. However,

in the absence of the sales tax provided by Prop 310, we must raise the property tax to boost our Capital Reserve so we can eventually order what we need. When we're able to order, the price of the engines will have increased again. We also must raise the rate to hire the personnel we need to meet the increased demand for services in our area.

We've been fiscally conservative in our approach to funding our agency. To that end, we still have capacity within our property rate to increase revenues to meet our needs. We won't be able to meet the need as demand grows; rather, we'll have to endure increased workloads, increased response times, and decreased reliability ratings while we slowly increase the tax rate to generate needed revenues.

Unfortunately, rather than sharing the cost of services through the sales tax provided by Prop 310 with everyone who uses our service, visitors included, property owners will see increases on their tax bills to generate the needed revenue. In short, property owners will continue to foot the entire bill for everyone who uses our services whether they own property here or not. In the end, it wasn't just the fire agency that needed Prop 310, it was the property owners within our jurisdiction that needed Prop 310.

April Call Statistics

By: GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman

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April Response Report - 2023

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

Responses in District

TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	21
STRUCTURE FIRE	1
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	0
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	2
VEHICLE FIRE	2
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	12
TRASH FIRE/OTHER	4

Fire is 1.82% of call volume

TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	787
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EMS is 68.14% of call volume

OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	6
SERVICE CALL	209
GOOD INTENT	93
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	39

Other is 30.04% of call volume

TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,155
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,293
TYPE-1 UNIT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,439

Fire Loss Summary

Residential Fire Loss	\$339,803
Commercial Fire Loss	\$25,800
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$2,000

Top 5 Call Types

724	EMS
109	Assist Invalid
62	Public Service
57	Cancelled en Route
26	Medical Assist

Average total # of calls per day	38.50
Average fire calls per day	0.70
Average EMS calls per day	26.20
Average all other calls per day	11.60

Call Volume at PRCC

	Month	Year-to-Date
PFD	841	3,360
CAFMA	1,155	4,648
GCFD	11	42
OD	7	39
WKFD	5	9

Unit Responses

Unit	District	Total	Move Up
E50	135	138	24
E51	22	181	36
E53	202	204	5
E540	45	48	15
E54	134	136	0
E57	38	41	3
E58	173	177	0
E59	143	148	1
E61	117	121	9
E62	148	159	13
E63	53	53	46
TR50	9	11	0
B3	36	43	0
B6	26	28	0
Rescues	20	21	0

TYPE-1 ENGINES

Calls by Municipality

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	199
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	623
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	50
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	283
Calls Out of District	7

Aid Agreement Summary

Aid Given to Prescott	150
Aid Received from Prescott	77
Aid Given to WVFD	0
Aid Received from WVFD	2
Mutual Aid Given	0
Mutual Aid Received	0