



# THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – **August 11, 2023**

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***“Acceptance doesn’t mean resignation. It means understanding that something is what it is and there’s got to be a way through it.”***

**—Michael J. Fox**

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

**ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL COMBOS IN A  
FIREHOUSE IS A SENIOR FIREFIGHTER WITH  
EXPERIENCE AND A LOVE FOR THE JOB AND  
A NEW FIREFIGHTER WITH ENTHUSIASM.**



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## The Chief's Desk

We recorded the CAFMA Connect this week with Captain Merrill. Our focus was what to expect with the upcoming recruit academy. One of the questions I posed was, "It seems like a long lead time from when we offered the positions to when the academy starts. Is that because of the challenges with getting gear and equipment?" The answer is yes. A big shout-out to Erik and the team at the Warehouse because they have things dialed! They don't make the gear, though, which means we're subject to the vendor's manufacturing schedule. Supply chain issues increase the lead time which is the biggest issue in getting gear today. Maybe we should start making our own gear.... What do you think Erik???



It's possible that we'll adjust how we approach new gear in future budgets. Not because of the recruit academy, although it could help; rather, we may need to keep some gear in stock and budget for additional each year as lithium-ion battery fires increase. Chief Duran, Phoenix FD, shared with me that they recently had a warehouse fire with pallets of those batteries. While the sprinkler system contained the fire, it was not suppressing the fire. First-in crews stretched lines for fire attack, but quickly had to take cover because of exploding batteries.

In the end, the hazardous materials team had to be called in, other stuff happened, they flew a drone in the warehouse, etc. Why is this important to the gear? Because all the gear for the first-in crews had to be destroyed because they couldn't adequately decontaminate it. In the future, Phoenix FD plans to budget for up to 200 sets of new turnouts per year simply because of lithium-ion battery exposure. We're not looking at 200 sets of gear, but some number should be included in the budget, as well as some number of sets in the Warehouse. Ultimately, if gear is in the Warehouse, we may cut down some of the lead time when we hire someone, and/or ensure that if your gear is no longer serviceable, we have something for you.

We also discussed what Company Officers and crews should expect with the recruits when they graduate the academy. Based on some feedback from the floor, it seems some expect the new recruits to come out of the academy at the same level as a four-year reserve from the old reserve program. That's not a realistic expectation.

The academy is going to provide our recruits with a basic level of knowledge. I like to think of it from the standpoint of a toolbox, the recruits come out with a toolbox that has a few of the basic tools inside. It's the job of the Company Officer and crew is to help fill the toolbox with additional tools (knowledge and skills) over time. **Cont. Page 3**

### Upcoming Events:

Aug 14 – 19 Chief at Fire Rescue International Senior  
Aug 19 – 22 Chief visiting his parents in St. Louis – I may not make it with the humidity...  
Aug 23 – Chief in Phoenix with Representative Bliss and Bureau of EMS

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### Board Meeting:

Board Meeting: August 28  
CAFMA – 1700-1830

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## **At least 36 killed in Hawaii wildfire, as thousands rush to escape flames**

**By: Audrey McAvoy, Jennifer Sinco Kelleher and Nick Perry Associated Press**

Thousands of Hawaii residents raced to escape homes on Maui as blazes swept across the island, destroying parts of a centuries-old town and killing at least 36 people in one of the deadliest U.S. wildfires in recent years.

The fire took the island by surprise, leaving behind burned-out cars on once busy streets and smoking piles of rubble where historic buildings had stood in Lahaina Town, which dates to the 1700s and has long been a favorite destination for tourists. Crews battled blazes in several places on the island Wednesday, and the flames forced some adults and children to flee into the ocean.

At least 36 people have died, according to a statement from Maui County late Wednesday that said no other details were available. Officials said earlier that 271 structures were damaged or destroyed and dozens of people injured. The 2018 Camp Fire in California killed at least 85 people, destroyed nearly 19,000 homes, businesses and other buildings, and virtually razed the town of Paradise.

Lahaina residents Kamuela Kawaakoa and Iulia Yasso described a harrowing escape under smoke-filled skies Tuesday afternoon. The couple and their 6-year-old son got back to their apartment after a quick dash to the supermarket for water, and only had time to grab a change of clothes and run as the bushes around them caught fire.

“We barely made it out,” Kawaakoa said at an evacuation shelter on Wednesday, still unsure if anything was left of their apartment.

As the family fled, a senior center across the road erupted in flames. They called 911, but didn't know if the people got out. As they drove away, downed utility poles and others fleeing in cars slowed their progress.

[firerescue1](#)

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

Many of the new folks have their EMT certification but have not been on an ambulance. It's your job to aid them in gaining the hands-on skills and street smarts needed to work in the field.

They may not know all the tools on the engine, or what your expectations are on an incident scene – teach them. Because they've been in the academy and not in the station, introduce them to station life and make your expectations clear.

Our new recruits spend some time during the academy riding along at the stations. Take time to show them around, introduce them to the job, and our culture – the good stuff, not the 'table of treason' 😊 Don't send them to the bay to work by themselves or set them off to the side while you go about your daily business. If you have a recruit on a ride along, the expectation is that you're shifting your daily

routine to one that is conducive to educating your recruit. Their experience that day is your responsibility and it's not one that should be taken lightly – I can assure you that Chief Feddema and I don't take it lightly.

Ultimately, our organization has shifted from one in which we recruit reserves, train them from day one, and then have them ride on the engines for some number of years before they're hired full-time. Those days are over and gone. In this new era, you're getting people who are likely very green, but eager to do good works. Honestly, it's not that much different from when the reserve program existed, i.e., someone had to start training all of you from the ground up. Now, it's on you to return the favor, only you'll be training folks already hired full-time fresh out of our academy and in need of mentoring and direction.

I can assure you that the recruit academy has not fallen short in their efforts to run a comprehensive and intensive training program.

Shifting gears a bit...

You've all at this point seen and heard about our three-year staffing plan. There's another position that I'd like to add and plan to present the basic concept to the Board at the August meeting. In talking with Chiefs Feddema, Rose, and Parra, along with HR Manager Patty, I'd like to start planning for a full-time Health and Safety Officer. We would take all the pieces of our health and wellness programs and move them from where they reside today – scattered among whoever doesn't really have capacity – and centralize them with one officer whose sole job is health and wellness.

In the preliminary design stage – in my head – I'd recommend we start the position as a Company Officer which would help us get it off the ground. We'd take Peer Fitness, annual physicals, cancer screenings, mental and behavioral health programs, high stress incident tracking, etc. and consolidate them all under the Health and Safety Officer who would report to either the Deputy Chief of Operations or Assistant Chief of Operations as deemed appropriate. I could see this person tracking work comp injuries along with the catch all – other duties as assigned 😊 I'm not sure when we'd try to insert the position, but my goal would be within the next two years. It comes down to our financial ability to add a health and wellness officer. On the other hand, we've come a long way in what we offer and there's certainly a lot more that needs to be done. The question is not, "Should we fund the position?" It's, "Can we afford not to fund the position?" Your safety and wellness are our top priority.

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## **July Response Report**

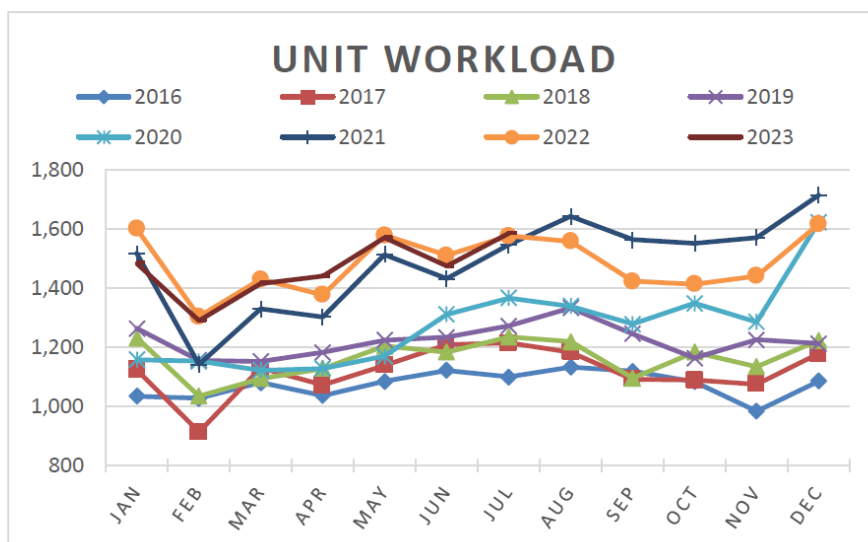
**By: GIS/Statistician Michael Freeman**

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## 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	1,483
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	1,415
Apr	1,036	1,071	1,127	1,182	1,127	1,302	1,376	1,439
May	1,084	1,138	1,203	1,223	1,169	1,512	1,577	1,569
Jun	1,121	1,208	1,183	1,233	1,310	1,431	1,509	1,473
Jul	1,099	<b>1,214</b>	<b>1,234</b>	1,271	1,366	1,546	1,575	<b>1,584</b>
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	<i>1,073</i>	<i>1,117</i>	<i>1,163</i>	<i>1,221</i>	<i>1,273</i>	<i>1,485</i>	<i>1,485</i>	<i>1,465</i>
<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>10,252</b>





# July 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	2
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	2
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	0
VEHICLE FIRE	2
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	11
TRASH FIRE/OTHER	4

**Fire is 1.54% of call volume**

TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	912
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**EMS is 66.96% of call volume**

OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	1
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	13
SERVICE CALL	243
GOOD INTENT	120
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	52

**Other is 31.5% of call volume**

TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,362
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,478
TYPE-1 UNIT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,584

### Fire Loss Summary

Residential Fire Loss	\$405,520
Commercial Fire Loss	\$200
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$2,000

### Top 5 Call Types

830	EMS
107	Assist Invalid
78	Public Service
78	Cancelled en Route
32	Vehicle Accident w/Injuries

Average total # of calls per day	43.94
Average fire calls per day	0.68
Average EMS calls per day	29.42
Average all other calls per day	13.84

### Call Volume at PRC

	Month	Year-to-Date
PFD	950	6,039
CAFMA	1,362	8,535
GCFD	18	86
OD	14	71
WKFD	1	12

### Unit Responses

Unit	District	Total	Move Up
E50	164	173	24
E51	46	202	56
E53	245	245	8
E540	28	31	6
E54	148	153	0
E57	59	64	7
E58	178	179	0
E59	178	184	2
E61	120	122	6
E62	137	145	3
E63	81	83	24
TR50	2	3	0
B3	45	51	0
B6	33	34	0
Rescues	0	0	0

TYPE-1 ENGINES

### Calls by Municipality

Calls in Town of Chino Valley	201
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	707
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	65
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	389
Calls Out of District	7

### Aid Agreement Summary

Aid Given to Prescott	145
Aid Received from Prescott	92
Aid Given to WVFD	0
Aid Received from WVFD	3
Mutual Aid Given	3
Mutual Aid Received	0