



Office of the Fire Chief
John J. Hohman, Chief

STAFF REPORT

August 4, 2015

9 a.m.

Dulaney Room

Report No.: 15-15

ATTENDEES: Fire Chief Hohman, Assistant Chiefs Hubbard and Preis, Chief of Staff Stewart, Division Chiefs Aubert-Utz, DiPaula, Hughes, Lurz, Miller, and Rogers, Battalion Chiefs Brown, Bycoffe, Kurlle, Lowman, Majchrzak, Tome, Director Griffin, and Office Administrator McInnes

Safety Reminder: *Per SOP 400-08: Tobacco Policy - The use of tobacco products, including chewing tobacco and e-cigarettes, is not permitted in fire stations or vehicles.*

Tips on Projecting a Professional Image in a Great Organization:
“Mess up, fess up, clean it up.” – Wise words on how to recover after making a mistake.

FIRST ALARM BLOG: [HTTP://BCNET.CO.BA.MD.US/AGENCIES/FIRE/FIRSTALARM](http://bcnet.co.ba.md.us/agencies/fire/firstalarm)

An ongoing dialogue about events, best practices, achievements and other matters of interest to members of the Baltimore County Fire Service.

STAFF REPORTS



CHIEF HOHMAN

- Retirements:
 - FADO Jeffrey Utzinger – 8/1/15
- Congratulated EMS Captain Richard Schenning, Fire Captain Bruce Schultz, and Fire Lieutenant Jay Ringgold on being promoted to Fire Director, effective August 8.



ASSISTANT CHIEF HUBBARD

- All Maryland Emergency Managers and key MEMA staff met on July 27 to discuss lessons learned and future plans for civil unrest events.
- The Executive Director of MEMA, Clay Stamp, is leaving his position and is returning to Talbot County government. He will now chair the Governor’s Emergency Management Advisory Council. Russell Strickland assumed the duties as MEMA’s Executive Director on August 3. We wish both gentlemen much success and look forward to working with them.



ASSISTANT CHIEF PREIS

- Progress continues on the new Towson Fire Station. (pictured at right)



COS STEWART

- **Female Facilities in Fire Stations** - Pre-construction planning continues on the female facilities in the Essex Fire Station, with work expected to begin this fall. The Golden Ring Fire Station will be the next to get an improved women's locker room, with an architect performing a site visit soon.
- **New Form on BCNet** – The form titled, *Items to be Returned by Retired or Separated Members*, is now available on BCNet, in the alphabetical listings.

FIRE LT. JAY RINGGOLD

- Attended the Children's Naturalization Firehouse Ceremony on July 31 at the Savage Volunteer Fire Department. Howard County Fire and Rescue Services hosted a US Citizens Naturalization Ceremony for 28 children from 20 different countries.
- Attended the Community Resource Festival at St. James A.M.E. Church in East Towson on August 1. Thanked the crew from M-11, PM Robert Freund and PEMT John Bangerd for teaching Hands-Only CPR at the event.

MANAGEMENT ANALYST HOLMAN

- Personnel that access OLTA or the Fire Inspections program (FS01) need to complete the mainframe password reset registration. This will allow you to reset your password without having to call the OIT Service Desk. If you have not [completed the registration](#), please do so at the link provided.



DIVISION CHIEF MILLER

- On July 7, M-17 responded to assist a patient suffering from sepsis and severe trouble breathing. Upon arrival at the hospital, the staff advised the patient's husband that had it not been for the actions of the Medic crew, the patient would not have survived. The couple, along with their entire family, stopped by the Texas Fire Station to thank all the crew members for their assistance. In a small speech, the patient's husband relayed that he brought the whole family (including the grandchildren) to show the crews how many lives had been affected by their actions that day. The family spent about an hour visiting and touring the station.

Crews:

M17:

PM Morgan McLennan

PEMT Jessica Weber-Smith

PEMT John An

E17:

Fire Lt. Kelvin Seigle
EMT/FF Christopher Niner

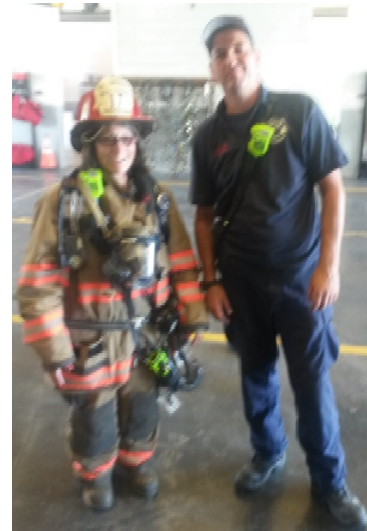
FADO Shawn Drees

EMT/FF Johnny Owens



- Thanked Capt. Ed Schwartz (Co. 31), Capt. Adam Goodman (Co. 32) and Capt. Dan Uddeme (Co. 50) for fulfilling Baltimore City's request for fill-ins for the funeral of PM Nicholas Hemingway. In addition, numerous companies represented Baltimore County by honoring Nick along the funeral route.

- On July 24, the Texas Fire Station, B-shift, hosted three citizens that won a "Day with the Fire Department" at the Baltimore County Senior Expo in 2014. They spent several hours at the Station, learning about many facets of the Fire Department. They enjoyed lunch, learned about the Engine, Tower, Medic, and USAR unit. (pictured at right)



- Attended the following:
 - 7/23 - Funeral for PM Nicholas Hemingway - Baltimore City Fire Department
 - 7/25 - Chestnut Ridge VFC's "Christmas in July"
 - 7/31 - Viewing for FS James Dunn
 - 8/1 - SLICE-RS Training in Carroll County
 - 8/3 - Teleconference with the UASI Recovery Committee Technical Assistance Team



DIVISION CHIEF AUBERT-UTZ

- The Summer Firefighter I program is now complete. The following personnel successfully completed the course:

PM Jesse Knox (10-B)

Thomas Kennedy (Co. 45)

Joseph Cook (Co. 31)

PEMT Kenneth David (13-B)

Will Sarudy (Co. 53)

David Cash (Co. 28)

Andrew Fogle (Co. 26)

PM Joseph Brush (7-D)

Fred Lavon (Co. 50)

John Lukish (Co. 50)

PM Drew Williams (7-B)

- The FRA staff extended their appreciation to the field operations crews that assisted with the Firefighter I class. Pictured below are photos of the Firefighter I class.

EMT/FF Erin Pasquali
FS Andy West
Fire Lt. Mike Ruppert
Fire Lt. Andrew Essel
FADO John Ritz
FADO Bob Murray Jr.
EMT/FF Dave Blenman

EMT/FF Brian Woodley
EMT/FF Jake Stuart
FADO Michael Frank
Capt. Craig Bidinger
Capt. Mike Torbit
FADO Bruce Fleming
FS Glen Real

FF/EMT John Kelly
FS Shawn Magaro
FADO Ed Rachinskas
Capt. Jack Amrhein
Fire Capt. Chris Weir
FADO John Heinz



- Congratulations to Fire Captain Thomas Ramey on completing the requirements for MICRB fire skills. Capt. Ramey is a welcomed addition to the FRA field support staff.
- The Summer EMT class is in their final week and preparing for their practical examinations.
- Upcoming fall training is available through [MFRI's website](#).
- Professional Qualification Applications for July 2015: 40 processed
- Fit Testing – 7
- The 106th Probationary Firefighter Recruit Class is scheduled to begin on August 10. Mentors are being assigned by the Recruitment Division. Family night is scheduled for August 13 at 1900 hours, mentors are encouraged to attend.

- Available Training Opportunities:

Advanced Life Support (ALS) Refresher MFRI Course	Dates available through MFRI	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Public Safety Building 3rd Floor, Hampton Rm 700 East Joppa Road Baltimore, MD 21286
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DIVISION CHIEF HUGHES

- Congratulation to EMT/FF Stephen Sharp on his recent clearance as an engine driver.
- Members of the White Marsh VFC, the Bowleys Quarters VFD, and others gathered on August 2 to memorialize the four firefighters and four civilians who died on August 1, 1971 when a line of thunderstorms stalled over the White Marsh area. The storm dumped approximately twelve inches of rain in a very short period. A vehicle with three civilians was swept away when the Bean Creek off of Philadelphia Road swelled and waves of water swept the civilians, a tow truck operator who stopped to assist, and the firefighters to their death. The firefighters from the White Marsh VFC (then, Cowenton VFC) were Douglas Mueller and Charles Hopwood. The firefighters from the Bowleys Quarters VFD were Milton DeSombre and Warren Shaffer. (pictured below)



- Congratulations to the following who recently completed the MFRI EVOC Course:

EMT/FF Jean Glass	Fire Lt. Jay Miller	Fire Capt. Richard Lannen
Fire Capt. J. Kelly Berkeridge	FADO Steven Redmer	FADO Michael Frank
Fire Capt. Craig Bidinger	FADO Ernest Feist	FS Ronald Imbraglio
FS Leroy Edmunds	FS Carl Rausch	FS Keith Blackmon



DIVISION CHIEF ROGERS

- Safety Report:

REPORT DATE:8-4-15			
	Total	Year-to-Date Total	Comparison YTD 2014 Total
VEHICLE ACCIDENTS:			Through: 8/4/14
15-135 – 15-139	5	139	118
INJURIES:			
134 - 142	9	142	116
EXPOSURES:			
Clinical:7/22/15-8/4/15	0	10	
Environmental: 7/22/15-8/4/15	0	5	
Industrial:7/22/15-8/4/15	0	23	
TOTAL EXPOSURES:	0	38	26

EMS LT. WILEY’S REPORT

- Out of Service 1st Line Apparatus

Unit	Location	Work Performed	OOS Date
M-106	Fire Maintenance Shop	Mirror repair/body work	08/03/2015
M-7	DPC	Body work	07/05/2015
M-117	Fire Maintenance Shop	PM	07/13/2015
M-13	Fire Maintenance Shop	Oil Pump Issues	07/14/2015
M-17	Fire Maintenance Shop	Back from DPC waiting clearance	07/30/2015
M-55	Fire Maintenance Shop	Electrical Issues	07/16/2015
E-01	Fire Maintenance Shop	PM/DOT 189s Issues	06/21/2015
E-05	Fire Maintenance Shop	Radiator being replaced	06/09/2015
E-15	Fire Maintenance Shop	Flood Damage Issues	06/27/2015
E-3	DPC	Air conditioning	07/29/2015
E-56	Fire Maintenance Shop	Brake & Steering Issues	07/15/2015
T-8	Fire Maintenance Shop	PM/DOT 189s	07/27/2015

- New Engines 61, and 3 have been put in service.
- The 106th Recruit Class has been issued their initial gear and uniforms.
- When a Fire Maintenance mechanic is at your station, please provide him/her with copies of your 189s and have the FADO or Officer remain with the mechanic to assist and clear 189s that have been completed.
- The stretcher lift systems are having worn components replaced. Medic units will be called to the shop for the work.
- When cleaning the Medic unit lift system, please take time to dry the track to avoid any issues with rust in the future.

- The concrete work is complete at the Woodlawn Fire Station.

- BA Report:

2015	Previous Report	Current Report	Current Total
Air-Paks	25	22	369
Masks	7	13	136
Cylinders	1	1	18
Cascades	0	0	0
Fit Tests	0	0	0
Oxygen Repairs	13	14	125



BATTALION CHIEF JOSEPH BROWN

- Starting August 10, additional Medic Units will be added to certain dates and times for hearing tests at Mercy. The new updated schedule will be emailed out to all Officers, and posted on BCnet. In addition, a new schedule for HazMat physicals was sent out last week to the Officers at the Westview, Eastview, and Brooklandville Fire Stations. Special thanks to the cooperative effort between the Fire Department, Office of Human Resources, and Mercy on this project.

- Members of the Woodlawn and Pikesville Fire Stations recently participated in training on new Engine 3. (pictured below)



BATTALION CHIEF BYCOFFE

- Towson University has invited Baltimore County Public Safety responders to attend the Towson Tigers 2015 opening football game on the evening of September 12. Please see the attached flyer for more information on receiving your free tickets.



BATTALION CHIEF DiPAULA

- On August 3, units from the 1st Battalion attended a training with State Athletic Trainers of Maryland at Towson University. The purpose of the training was to develop a working relationship with the local athletic trainers and practice spinal immobilization for athletes. There was great feedback and we recommend that EMS Lieutenants reach out to the local high schools that have athletic trainers to improve communications.

- Thanks to Fire Lt. Brandon Warren and crews of the Texas Fire Station for recent Battalion training. They conducted an EVOC refresher for all members at Jacksonville VFC and we received positive feedback on the class. (pictured right)



BATTALION CHIEF KURRE

- On July 23, B-shift personnel attended *Our Town* training at the Level Volunteer Fire Company in Harford County. The training activities focused around a large scale, very realistic, Tabletop Simulator. The focus of the session was Incident Command at a large scale, disaster type situation. The training used the National Incident Management System.

The following personnel attended:

Fire Capt. William Stump	Fire Lt. Richard Snyder	EMS Lt. Angela Taury
PM Robert Freund	FS Twana Allen	FS Eric Wentworth
EMTFF Daniel Warchol	FS Evan Dayhoff	FADO Joseph Wiggins

- On August 4, numerous B-shift personnel attended the training, *Principle of Modern Fire Attack: SLICE-RS* in Carroll County sponsored by Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. They are delivering these programs nationally with the support of grants from the Department of Homeland Security and an Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

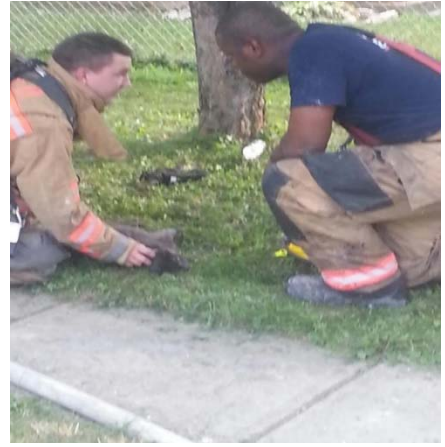
The following personnel attended:

DC Stephen Miller	Fire Capt. John Perry	Fire Capt. Gregg Kearney
Fire Capt. Wm. Allenbaugh	Fire Lt. Steven Miller	Fire Lt. Brandon Lookingland
Fire Lt. Dale Richardson	FADO Wayne Hipsley	FS Allen Dutterer
FADO Wayne Hackley	FS Joseph Saunders	FADO Donald Nash
FS Michael Roberts	FS Ronald Mintz	FS Evan Dayhoff
FS Shane Davies	EMT/FF Joshua Ely	EMT/FF Zachary Belcher



BATTALION CHIEF LOWMAN

- The 3rd Battalion, D-shift, has had several active fire incidents over the last few tours including the one which involved the successful rescue of a family pet. (pictured at right)
- On July 30, Engine and Medic 54 participated with Bowleys Quarters VFD in a water rescue drill. This was a well-planned water safety refresher and orientation to the station's units and equipment.



BATTALION CHIEF MAJCHRZAK

- Attended EMT Doug Sibiski's last night at the Dundalk Fire Station. Doug is retiring after serving in the Fire Department for 25 years. We wish Doug and his family a long and happy retirement filled with lots of hunting and fishing. (pictured at right)
- Thanked Kate Shawler and the Rosedale VFC for loaning one of their number wheels to the Baltimore County Animal Shelter. The number wheel is necessary for a promotion the Animal Shelter is conducting during the month of August. The spirit of cooperation is greatly appreciated.



BATTALION CHIEF TUDOR

- Congratulations to EMT/FF Nicholas Hornberger (3-A) for completing and passing his truck turn-in.

RECOGNITIONS

- Tara Wagner, Principal of Arrow Child and Family Ministries, emailed to thank Fire **Captain Calvin Bell, FADO Walter Brewer, FS Richard Szukiewicz, and EMT/FF Charles Watson** from the Hillendale Fire Station. The crew visited the school and provided a demonstration with safety suggestions. They were commended for being open and flexible with their autistic students.
- **EMT Katie Duncan-Fulton** was thanked by a Police Department employee who had a medical emergency at work. She wrote, "I really appreciated you being here and keeping me calm. It is great having people like you around. I always admire people that are able to do what you do and help people when they most need it. Thanks again."
- Fire Lt. Mark Milburne wrote to commend all the crews that responded to a boating incident on July 26. It was an outstanding effort and teamwork by all involved.

Units on scene:

Baltimore County Units: E-6, M-6, M-106, EMS-3, T-15, Middle River Rescue's squad/dive team, boats from Bowleys Quarters VFD, and North-Point Edgemere VFD.

Other agencies: Natural Resources Police, MDTA Police, Baltimore County Police, Baltimore City Fire Department, Anne Arundel County Fire Department units and dive team, US Coast guard, Trooper 1 and Trooper 3

- FADO Scott Dundas wrote to thank **Fire Lt. John Crooks and the crew of the Towson Fire Station, E-shift** for the assistance they provided to his daughter.
- EMS Lt. Mark Wiley relayed the appreciation of the crew of the Pikesville Fire Station, D-shift, for the assistance provided by **Mechanic Gene Przybylowicz** from Fire Maintenance. On July 21, Gene responded to the station to work on Medic 2. He was able to keep the Medic in-service and he also took care of a few other minor repairs while he was there.
- **Personnel Assistant Mary Shay** was thanked by Tara Dees in the Office of Human Resources. Tara wrote, "I just have to say I am so thankful to work with you. You are so on the ball with the payroll and everything. Just wanted you to know how appreciated you are!!! And that we here in HR know that you work very hard to make sure everything is on point!!!"
- **Fire Lt. Jimmy Artis** was thanked by James W. Brown, Director of Educational Support Services at MIEMSS for his assistance with their YouthWorks summer jobs program.
- **DC Steve Miller and the crew at the Texas Fire Station, B-shift,** were commended by Jennifer Haire, who won a "Day with the Fire Department" at the Baltimore County Senior Expo in 2014. She wrote, "I can't say enough about how knowledgeable and generous with time and information they were...I couldn't have imagined a finer production to the front lines." (pictured at right)
- On July 15 in Washington, DC, **EMT/FF David Blenman and EMS Lt. Terri Reid** attended the First Responder Diversity Convening: Research and Best Practices on Successful Models for Recruitment, Training, and Retention, led by U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and the IAFF President Harold Schaitberger. The event featured remarks by Secretary Perez, President Schaitberger, researchers, civil rights leaders, industrial organizational psychologists, and first responders. Following a panel discussion, the convening broke into smaller groups to discuss and identify promising models to recruit, train, and retain diverse candidates for paramedic and fire fighter positions. (pictured at right with IAFF President Schaitberger)



Photo below: from left to right: Black Women in the Fire Service President Sabrina Potter, Decatur (GA) Fire Chief Toni Washington, EMS Lt. Terri Reid and Vulcan Society New York President Regina Wilson.



- An Emergency Room Nurse at Carroll County General Hospital called to commend **PM Glennell Leonard, EMT/FF Kimberley Routson, FS Scott Mitchell, and FADO Doreen Means**. She relayed that the medic team brought in a patient in cardiac arrest on July 30 and did an amazing job with the patient.
- Fire Captain Jack Amrhein wrote to thank the crew of the Truck 18 at the Randallstown Fire Station, **Fire Lt. Robert Kemp, FADO Keith Klunk, FADO James Carter and FS Darnell Harrison**. He writes, “While working exchange time, at a station that I have never been assigned and with a crew I have never worked with nor have any personal relationship with, they showed true kindness and courtesy to [my] grandchildren...while they were passing through the area and stopped for a visit. The crew of T-18, took the time and had the patience to show the truck and answer the never ending questions of a 4 year-old boy infatuated with “fire trucks” and a 5 year-old girl who is amazed at all the ‘stuff we have to wear’. It may seem like a little thing, but it made their day.”

Next Staff meeting: Tuesday, August 18 at 9 a.m. in the Dulaney Room



FIRST RESPONDERS NIGHT

Join Towson University on September 12th at 6 P.M.

TOWSON vs. SAINT FRANCIS

Each First Responder Member will receive four complimentary tickets.

Call 410-704-4366 to redeem your complimentary tickets.

Additional Tickets are \$8. To purchase additional tickets use promo code: TUFIRST

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