

# Klamath County Fire District 1

**2023 Annual Report**

# VALUES

Customer Service · Integrity · Teamwork · Sense of Family · Fiscal Responsibility

# MISSION

At Klamath County Fire District 1, we are devoted to safeguarding the lives and property of our community, visitors and neighbors by providing professional emergency services with compassion, courtesy, integrity and fiscal responsibility.

# COMMUNITY

We take great pride in being a critical service provider in Klamath Falls. Our department continues to seek out advancements in technology, while building a stronger, more prepared team as we continue to put a greater emphasis into training and education. We understand the importance of fire prevention and the impact of fire within our community. From all of us at Klamath County Fire District 1, thank you for allowing us the opportunity to make a positive impact.

-Greg Davis, Fire Chief



## SERVICES PROVIDED BY KLAMATH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1

### FIRE SUPPRESSION

- Structure Fire Response
- Wildland & Wildland Urban Interface
- Motor Vehicle

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- Advanced Life Support
- Emergency Medical Transport
- Inter-Facility Transport
- Non-emergency Lift Assist
- Non-emergency Standby

### TECHNICAL RESCUE

- High Angle Rescue
- Swift Water Rescue
- Surface Water Rescue

### TRANSPORTATION RESPONSE

- Vehicle Extrication
- Highway/Rail
- Airport Support

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Operations (defensive) Level
- Product Identification/Retention
- Scene Isolation

### FIRE PREVENTION

- New Construction Plans Review
- Code Enforcement
- Fire & Life Safety Inspections
- Fire Investigation
- Community Risk Reduction
- Public Education

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Blue Card Incident Command
- Task Force/Strike Team Leaders
- Mass Casualty Incident Support

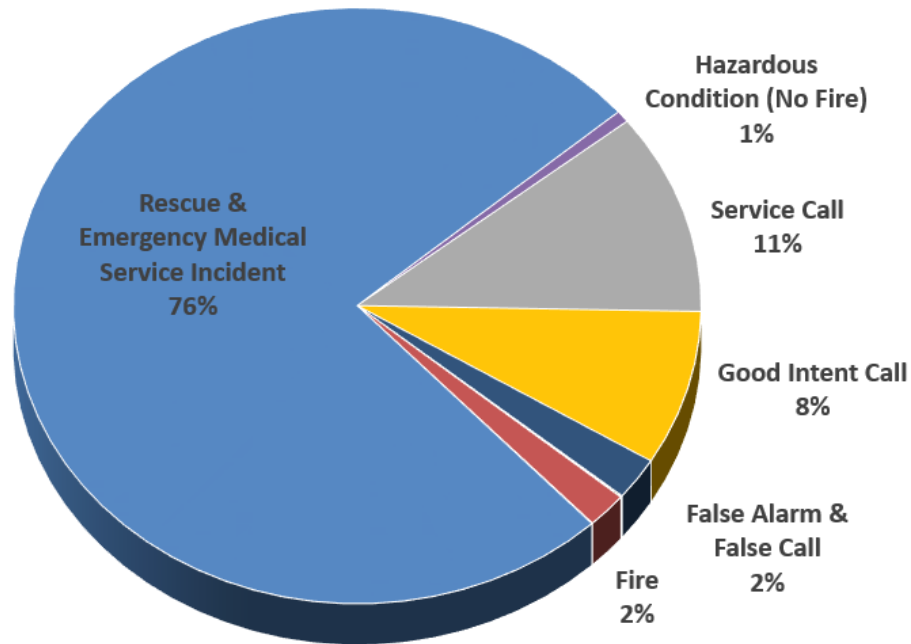
### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Community Outreach
- Car Seat Instruction
- Public Relations Team
- Social Media and Messaging

# 2023 Statistics and Trends

## Distribution of Event Types

In 2023 KCFD1 Responded to 9008 Calls For Service

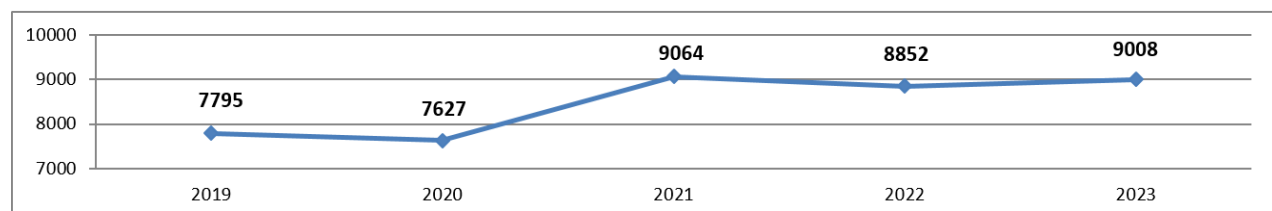


### Incident Types Less than 1%

Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)  
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster  
Special Incident Type

## Major Incident Types 2019 through 2023

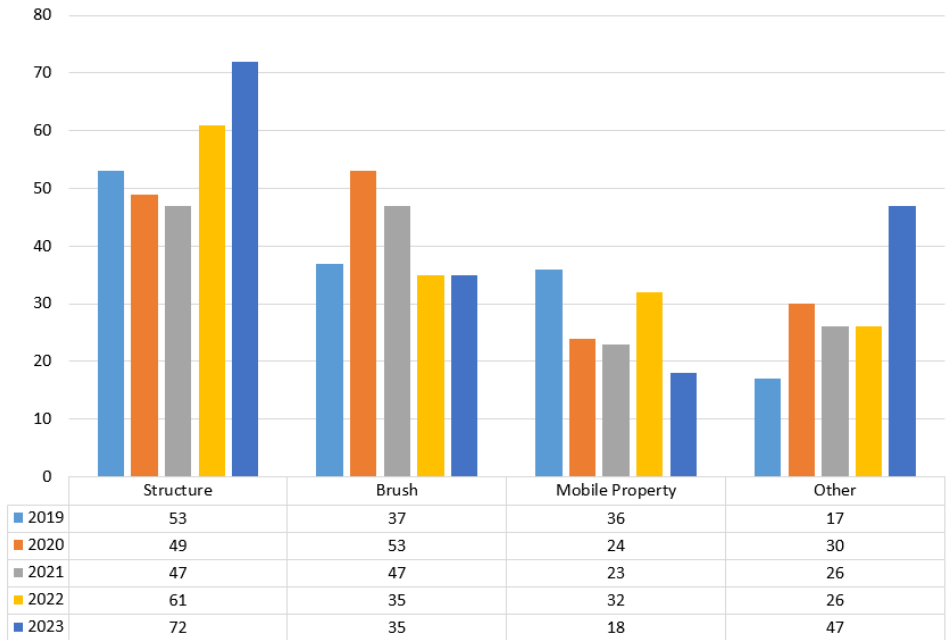
Incident Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fire	143	156	143	154	172
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	0	4	2	1	3
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	6047	5843	7189	6943	6817
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	53	48	30	54	58
Service Call	828	881	991	929	985
Good Intent Call	549	539	541	580	758
False Alarm & False Call	172	150	162	186	207
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	0	1	0	0	1
Special Incident Type	3	5	6	5	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7795</b>	<b>7627</b>	<b>9064</b>	<b>8852</b>	<b>9008</b>



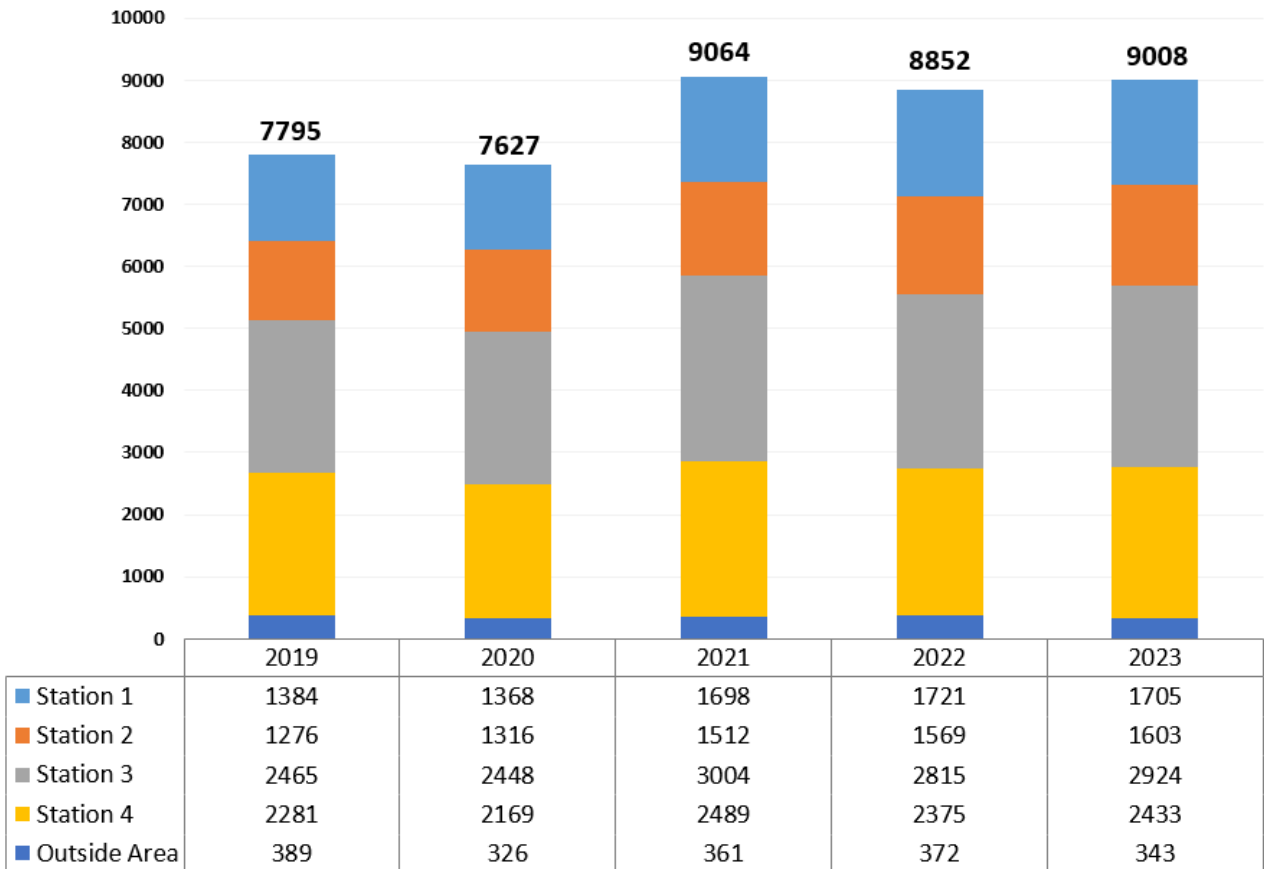
# 2023 Statistics and Trends



Types of Fires by Year

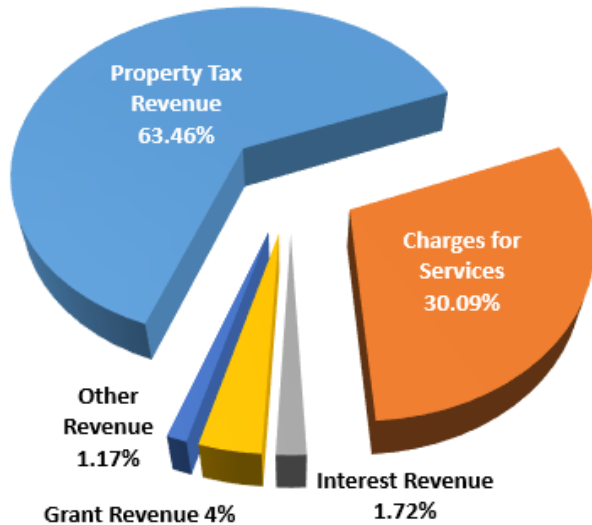


Call Volume by Response Area

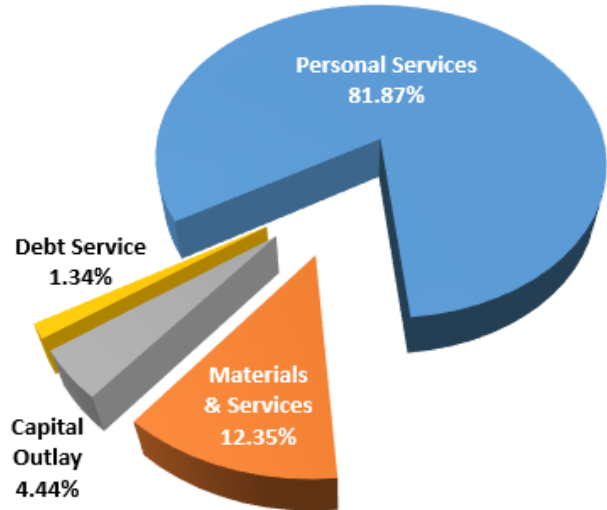


# 2022-2023 Financial Review

2022-2023 Revenue - General Fund



2022-2023 Expenditures - General Fund



Klamath County Fire District 1 derives its operating revenue from several sources, primarily from property taxes, and charges for services such as ambulance transports. **KCFD1's permanent tax rate is \$2.8822 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.**

## PERSONNEL

KCFD1 has 83 employees:

- Fire & EMS Response: 64
- Apprentices: 6
- Prevention & Training: 3
- Administration: 10



## AREA SERVED

KCFD1 serves a population of **56,000 permanent residents** within a 490 square mile ambulance service area and 200 square mile fire district. In the heart of the District sits the City of Klamath Falls, which is the largest city in Klamath County and is home to 48,000 residents living within a 20 square mile urban growth boundary. The remaining 8,000 residents are scattered throughout rural areas.

The District's response area consists of a diverse geography and climate. The basin's elevation is 4,100 feet and is surrounded by mountains reaching 6,525 feet. The majority of this area is classified as either wildland or wildland urban interface.

# 2023 Year in Review

## JANUARY & FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- **2022 Employee Award Winners.** Captain Cole Van Essen, Firefighter Treyson Robbins, Paramedic Jack McGuire and Deputy Chief Matt Hitchcock were recognized at the Employee Appreciation Dinner for their significant contributions to the Department.
- **Station 4 Upgrades Complete.** After months of seismic upgrades, expanding the building footprint and significant improvements, Station 4 crews moved in and the Station was once again fully operational.
- **Engine Standardization Project completed.**



## MARCH & APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Safety & Security.** Many upgrades were made to stations including exterior lighting and door lock systems, along with security policy updates. A tiered safety project plan is now in place for future budget cycles.
- **The District was awarded a Type 3 Wildland Engine** through an Oregon State Fire Marshal Engine Program grant. The engine is currently being built and is expected to be in service in Klamath Falls before the start of the 2024 wildland season.
- **Emergency Networking** was selected as the District's new Records Management System (RMS). The new RMS will provide the District with opportunity to move towards a paperless system and mobile charting, while also capturing the data necessary to determine response trends and to plan for the future. In 2024, Klamath County 911 will transition to Tyler Technologies for their Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, allowing for more accurate and meaningful data flow between the agencies.



# Water Rescue Improvements

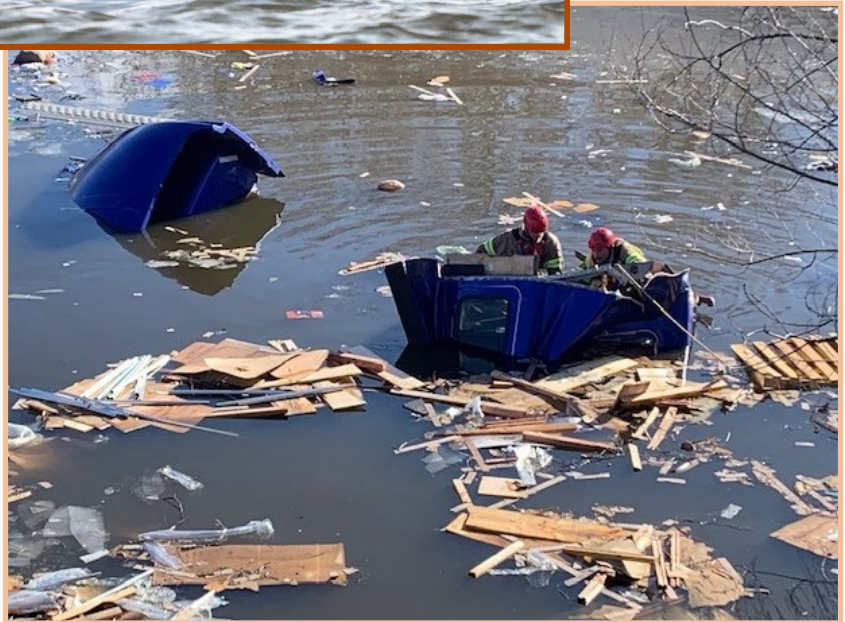


Swift & Surface Water Training by Crux Training

A thorough review was performed of the technical rescue services provided by the District. This review led to the purchase of new water rescue equipment.

## MAY HIGHLIGHTS

- **ASA Renewed.** A 7-year Ambulance Service Agreement (ASA) with Klamath County was extended.
- Staff started preparing for the **2024 ISO Evaluation.**



- **Apprentice Program.**

An Inter-governmental Agreement was signed with the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office (OSFM) for a 2-year Firefighter Apprenticeship Program.

- **Civil Service Commission.** The KCFD1 Board of Directors authorized the appointment of a 3-member Civil Service Commission.
- **Promotion Process.** A Captain's Assessment was held to develop a current Captain's promotion list. From this list, Firefighter Zach Sweeney was promoted to Captain.
- **Radio Grant.** New hand held radios were implemented at a cost of \$145,000. Funds for the purchase were received through an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant.



## MAY & JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Firewise Fire Mitigation Program.** KCFD1 put forth focused efforts to create a *Firewise Community* with the Running Y Homeowner's Association and interested homeowners. Other community homeowner's associations were also contacted to explore the *Firewise Program*.
- **Partnership.** Klamath Community College (KCC) celebrated the Grand Opening of the Apprenticeship Center. The center includes space for the KCC Fire Sciences Program; previously, a lot of the training was held at District stations. The District's 1949 Seagrave engine was restored and put on display in the college Training Center lobby.
- **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG).** A new AFG engine was put into service as engine 3113.
- **Budget Adoption.** The 2023-2024 budget of \$22,655,139 was adopted.
- An **OSFM Fire Mitigation Grant of \$146,900** was awarded to KCFD1 for fire mitigation work to take place within the Moore Park and Southview residential areas (131 acres). Once a comprehensive plan is in place the mitigation work will be completed.



## JULY HIGHLIGHTS



### KCFD1 Assisted Local Mutual Aid Partners

On July 22, 2023, a Klamath County Strike Team was sent to Bly Mountain for a wildland fire. A conflagration was declared by the state for **The Golden Fire**, which burned 2,100 acres and destroyed 43 homes.

### Apprenticeship Program Recruitment

Closed in July with 279 applications received.



## AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS



- The newly appointed **Civil Service Commission** held their first meeting, jumping right into hiring processes and adopting rules for the Commission.
- **Applicants for the Apprenticeship Program** were narrowed down to the top 10. The top 6 were offered positions.
- **KCFD1 went LIVE with Emergency Networking!**
- Deputy Chief Webb was appointed to the **Oregon Fire Chiefs Association** as a representative on the Safety & Health Committee, working with the group to address safety and health improvements statewide.

- **Wilson Heirgood Insurance performed on-site safety consultations** at Stations 2 and 3.
- Creation of entry level firefighter positions at KCFD1.

## SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- The agreement with KCC was signed for the Apprenticeship Program; academy started on September 25, 2023.
- Both firefighter and EMS hiring processes took place. **In total, 16 firefighter and EMS personnel were hired. Three employees made division transfers from EMS to firefighter.**



## OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Fire Prevention Week.** The highlight of October is always Fire Prevention Week. A Safety Fair was held with several vendors and community partners from around the county. The 2023 theme was, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention".

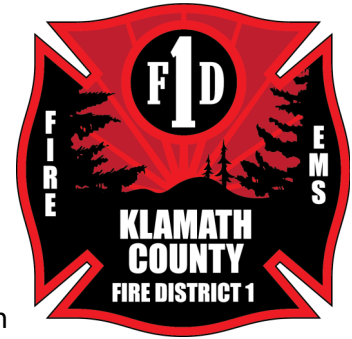
- **Solar Eclipse.** Klamath County was a high viewing area for the solar eclipse on October 14, 2023. Several agencies, including KCFD1, had detailed plans and upstaffing in place.



## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES ESTABLISHED IN OCTOBER**

Nine strategic goals were developed and put in place for the District to focus on over the next year:

- Continuing focus on customer service and partnerships
- Maintaining organizational focus on fiscal responsibility and funding
- Continuing to plan ahead for future expenditures
- Policy development
- Intentional focus towards service delivery improvements
- Addressing and resolving challenges over response coverage areas
- Focused attention towards responder health and safety
- Preparing the workforce for the future (succession planning)
- Directing focused attention towards local community risk reduction programs



As part of these changes, the Battalion Chief of Training and the Battalion Chief Fire Marshal positions, held by Brent Knutson and Chad Tramp, were reclassified to Division Chief positions within the Department.

## **NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

- Several months were spent with surveyors in regard to the **District 1 and District 4 service areas**. During November a significant amount of documents and research were sent to Klamath County and then forwarded to a special department within the Oregon Department of Revenue for final boundary determinations.
- Tyler Technologies was selected as the new Klamath County 911 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software vendor; implementation of the new CAD is slated for March 15, 2025.

## **DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Hazmat transition to the state was finalized.** Major hazmat responses for Klamath Falls will now come from counties adjacent to Klamath County.
- **Paramedic Sponsorship Program** was adopted. The department implemented a program that provides an opportunity for current EMTs to become paramedics, with the department sponsoring and supporting those efforts.
- **EMS Committee.** Members met multiple times to tackle items such as: overseeing ambulance supply rearrangements, updating aging equipment, standardizing medical kits throughout the District, and moving the department in a direction as a community leader in service delivery.
- **Workplace Safety.** Throughout the year, more effort was put towards workplace safety. The Safety Committee implemented new safety practices including purchasing fire rated cabinets and new binder lifts, and conducting quarterly facility inspections.
- **Apparatus.** KCFD1 took receipt of 2 new ambulance chassis and a new pickup. The chassis' will be used for remounting ambulances 3175 and 3172, with the pickup being built for a new Battalion Chief vehicle 3103.

# Training & Certification

## 12,305 TRAINING HOURS

### ACADEMIES COMPLETED:

- ◆ EMS Paramedic Academy - September 18-22
- ◆ Apprentice Firefighter Academy - September 25-December 15
- ◆ EMS EMT Academy - October 16-18
- ◆ Firefighter Academy - October 30-November 22

KCFD1 trained 19 people for their new position in 2023.

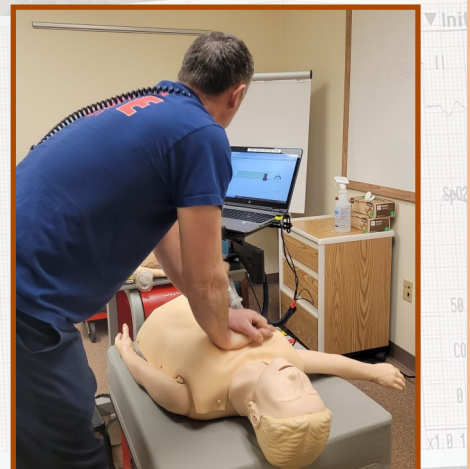
### TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS

- ◆ Fire Officer I Course - Led by Captain Cole Van Essen
- ◆ NWCG Engine Boss Course - Led by Jake Barnett, ODF
- ◆ New EMS Training Equipment
- ◆ Blue Card Incident Commander Certification
- ◆ NFPA Apparatus Equipped with a Fire Pump Course - Led by Captain Gary Denney
- ◆ F15 Pilot Removal & Recovery Training - provided by Kingsley Field
- ◆ Risk-Based Response to Battery Emergencies Training - provided by Hazard 3
- ◆ EMS Standing Orders Updates
- ◆ EMS Certification Renewal



### ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS RECEIVED by PERSONNEL

Fire Officer I/II	Blue Card Instructor
Fire Instructor I/II	Public Information Officer
Firefighter I/II	Paramedic Licensure
Firefighter Type I/II	CPR Instructor
Hazmat Technician	AIC Training/Taskbook
NFPA Apparatus Driver/Operator	NEMA NFA Incident Safety Officer
NFPA Apparatus Equipped with	
Mobile Water Supply	



# Prevention Division



- ➔ Klamath County Fire District 1 has **1,889** Commercial Occupancies within our District boundaries.
- ➔ There are **1,042** Fire & Life Safety Systems within these occupancies;
- ➔ Of which, **922 (88%)** of them have no fire code deficiencies and **120 (12%)** have minor maintenance items required to be conducted in order to make them compliant with the fire code.



## 2023 Year in Review:

- Completed Fire & Life Safety Inspections 117
- Seatbelt Diversion Class Attendees 34
- Car Seat Consultation/Installs 22
- Smoke Detector Installations 10
- Pre-application Plan Reviews for Construction 30
- KCFD1 saw **1,500** people at Community Outreach Events

## The following Fire & Life Safety messaging topics were distributed throughout the community:

- New Year's Safety
- Winter Driving
- Wildfire Preparedness
- Keep it Legal, Keep it Safe (4th of July)
- BBQ Safety Tips
- Check your Smoke Detector
- Outdoor Burning
- Cooking Safety
- Heating Safety
- Christmas Tree and Holiday Decoration Safety
- Be Ready, Be Set, Go Now (Evacuation Preparedness)



Result of unattended cooking by the occupants. Never leave food cooking unattended, the results could be disastrous.

## FIRE INSPECTOR POSITION ADDED TO DEPARTMENT

Earl Perry was selected to fill this newly created Fire Inspector position and will spend most of his time in the community working on commercial business fire inspections, pre-fire plans and fire and life safety system inspections. Earl brings an extensive background with many years in building construction and code compliance. He also comes to us with a long history of residency

within the Klamath Falls community which helped him transition into this role.

With the addition of the Fire Inspector position, the Prevention Division has the following **goals set for 2024:**

- Complete 500+ business inspections
- Conduct 50 residential home inspections
- Conduct 200 pre-fire plan assessments
- Conduct 10 fire extinguisher classes



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President Gloria Storey  
Vice-President Mike Jones  
Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Thomas  
Director Ernie Palmer  
Director Gene Rogers

## **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Fire Chief Greg Davis  
Deputy Chief Matt Hitchcock  
Deputy Chief Dylan Webb  
Division Chief Fire Marshal Chad Tramp  
Division Chief Training Brent Knutson  
Director of Administrative Services Phil Hull

## **2023-2024 CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

Cathy Brosnan-Trepus  
Scott Olsen  
Adam Randall

## **2023-2024 BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Terry Metler  
Sandra Fox  
Seth Gretz  
Edwin Tuhy  
Joe Young  
KCFD1 Board of Directors