

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



HOT NEWS

Victoria Fire Department 1st in Texas to Receive EMS for Children Recognition Program.

Congratulations to everyone for your hard work and dedication to making the VFD the "Best in Texas" once again. This is a huge accomplishment and a great honor.

This recognition places a spotlight on the delivery of high-quality emergency medical care for children, focusing on the unique needs of critically ill or injured pediatric patients and the challenges faced by EMS professionals in meeting those needs.

This recognition also provides the EMSC program with an opportunity to bring together the EMS agency and their local community to focus attention on illness and injury prevention and raise awareness about issues important to the continued development and improvement of EMS and Trauma systems relating to children. In addition, it helps the program raise awareness about safety and prevention and the ongoing need to improve and expand specialized care for children in the prehospital setting.



NEW SCBA ON ORDER

The new SCOTT X3 SCBA has been ordered to replace our entire fleet of SCBA this fall. We received the initial train the trainer course and will begin familiarization with Operations in the near future.

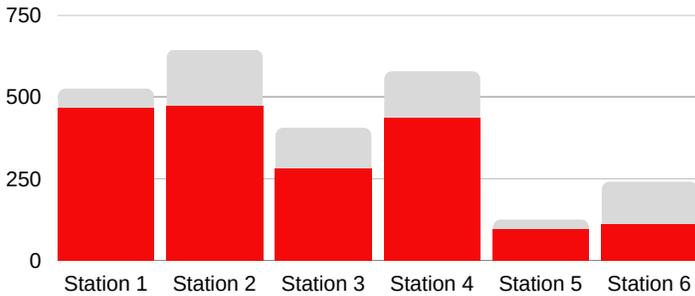
Followed by intense hands on training. The pack features great new technology like the SEMS software.



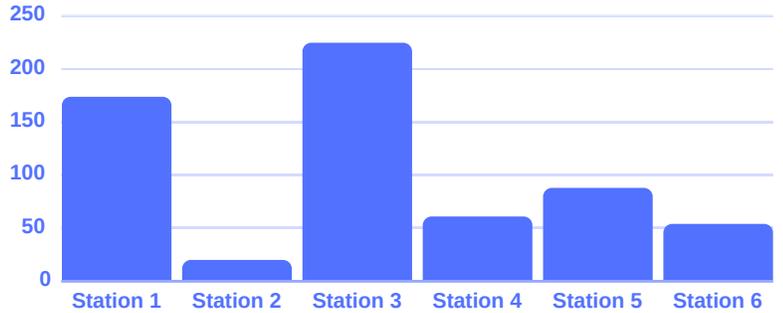
Victoria Fire Department

QUARTERLY REPORT - 2023 / Q1

RESPONSE VOLUME

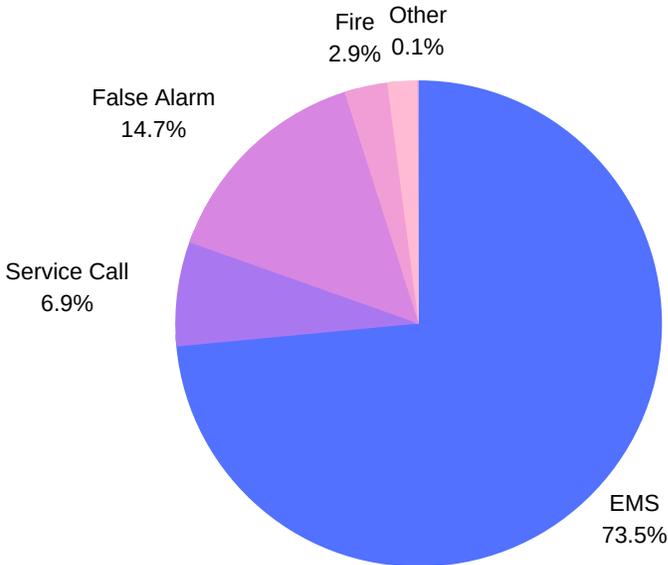


COUNTY RESPONSE VOLUME

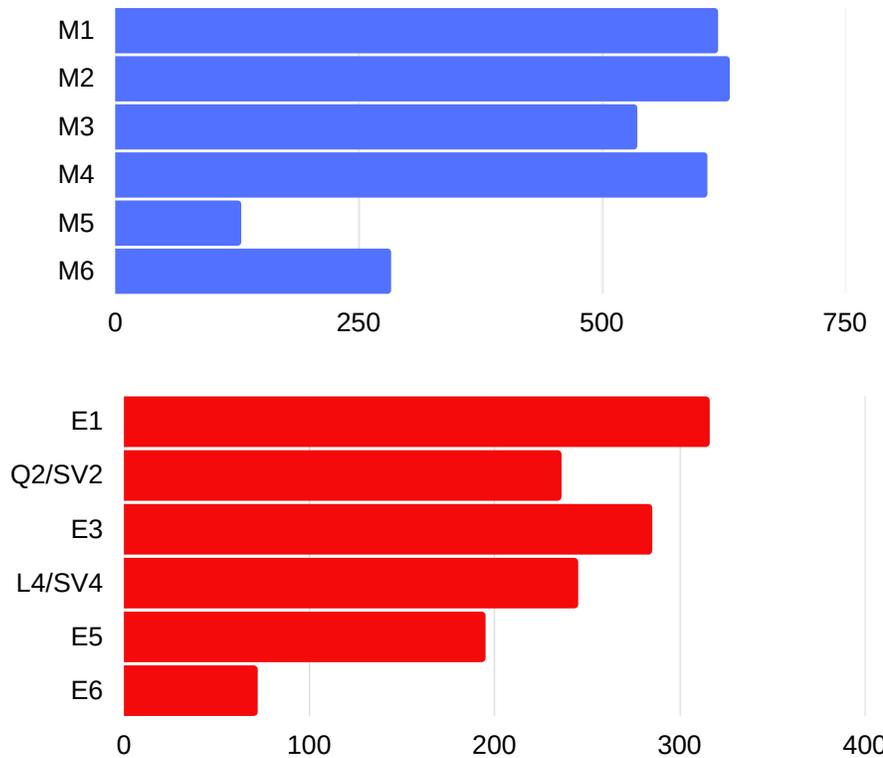


The VFD responded to 3,074 calls for service in the 1st quarter of 2023. The (red) bar indicates calls responded within the respective district and the (grey) bar indicates calls responded to outside of the district. The VFD responded to 616 calls for service in the County.

RESPONSE TYPE



UNIT RESPONSES



Real Property Saved From Fire Damage

Value: \$1,318,178 Loss: \$446,220 Saved: \$871,958

Overall (15)
66%

County (5)
18%

City (10)
71%

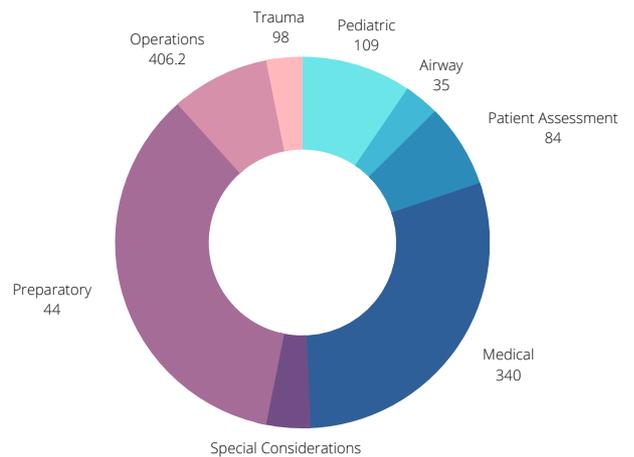
FIRST QUARTER TRAINING/LOGISTICS REPORT 2023



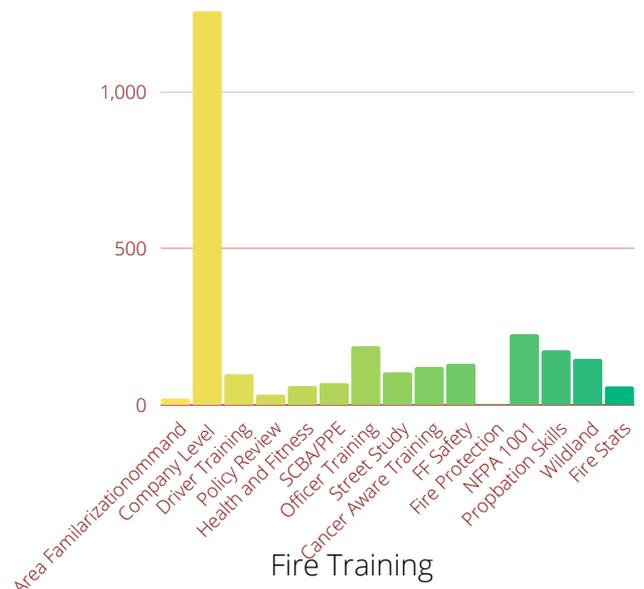
The first quarter of 2023, the training office coordinated a wide range of projects of programs.

Certification Advancements

- C. Doehrman TCFP Fire OFF I
- R. Mitchell TCFP Fire OFF III
- N. Ojeda TCFP Fire OFF IV
- F. Fgueroa TCFP Basic SFF
- J. Tunchez TCFP DOP
- N. Ojeda TCFP Master SFF
- J. Adcock TCFP AVD SFF
- A. Moon TCFP ISO
- J. Rudd TCFP DOP



EMS Training



Fire Training



In the first quarter of 2023, training continued our expansion of drill field assets funded by grants or revenue generated by the fire academy and other outside training events.

HALLIBURTON

Rescue Training Prop



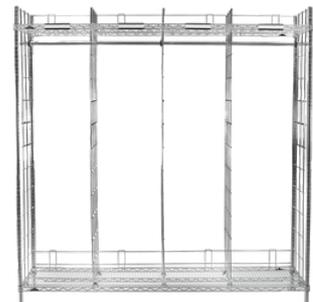
Through efforts made by Captain Pillar, Halliburton donated a confined space training prop. The prop will be installed on the new concrete pad poured next to the roof prop. This addition will allow for a variety of training opportunities. The new prop should be available for use sometime next month.



M.G. & Lillie A. Johnson FOUNDATION

Grant Update

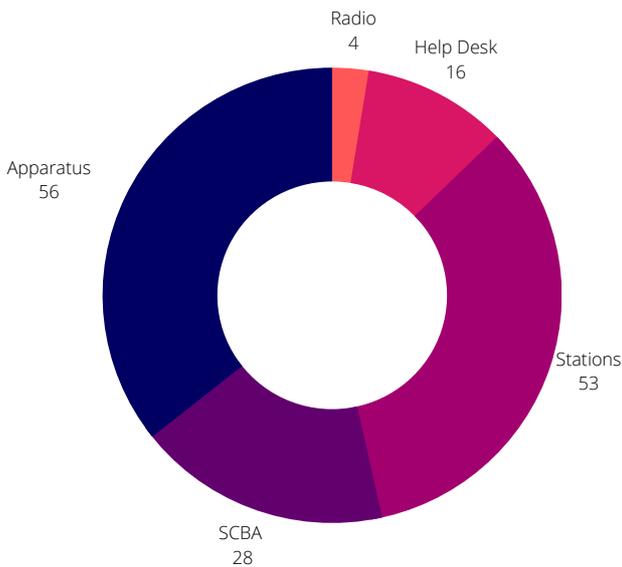
In addition to the burn room, temperature monitoring system, and training SCBA upgrades already completed or in progress, the grant also funded pouring a pad and enclosing the carport for fire academy storage. The new building will include 20 Ready Rack lockers for fire cadet PPE storage and a mobile SCBA/Hose cart.



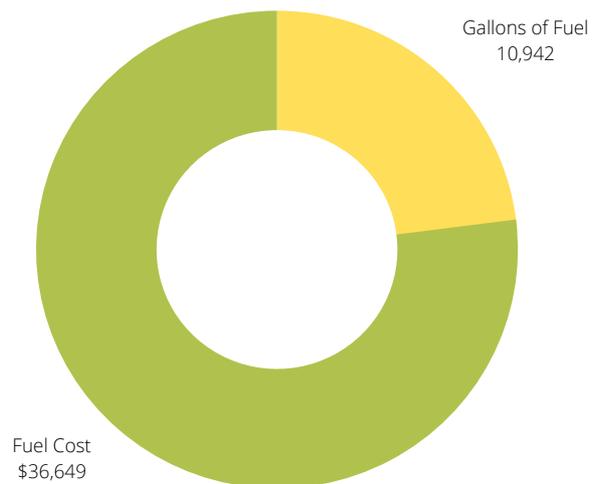
THIRD QUARTER TRAINING/LOGISTICS REPORT 2022



The first quarter of 2023 continued to be a busy time for logistics. With the fiscal year in full swing, we began our annual third-party testing and maintenance programs. We completed aerial ladder testing and Holmatro tool maintenance in March.



Service Request



Fleet

VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE Q1 REPORT

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TOO...

FOODTRUCKS

During the first quarter of the year, it's been the goal of the Fire Marshal Office to push the importance of fire safety inside food trailers to the owner/operators and their patrons. We at the Fire Marshal are actively visiting with individuals to ensure they are complying with the IFC 2021. What this mean is that vendors who are operating in the city of Victoria that are making food that produces grease-laden vapors (cooking with butter, cooking oil, lard, shortening, or a non-stick spray coating that contains oil) inside the unit has a commercial kitchen suppression system; or if it is a pre-existing system that it has been inspected and tagged. It is essential to have an automatic fire suppression system that rapidly detects fires and quickly shuts down the fuel or electric supply to nearby cooking equipment to prevent the fire from spreading further.

We want to educate the public, so they understand the benefits out weights the cost, which many owners are receptive to. We will continue educating the community by conducting regular inspections and public engagement opportunities.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 100 Club Banquet
- Queen City Clean Up
- University of Houston Victoria- The Association of Future Advocate

NEW BUSINESS

Murdoch's Ranch & Home Store 7508 N. Navarro (currently in construction)
Longhorn Steakhouse (expected construction in April)
Dollar General- Ben Jordan (site plans approved)



23

OPERATIONS

First Quarter

Your Victoria Fire Dept. has been busy getting the new year off to a "hot" start. During the first few months the Operations Division was busy not only fighting seven structure fires throughout the county but also enhancing the day-to-day operations to better provide for our members and the citizens of Victoria County. Funds were allocated to purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) along with all new bottles which totaled a budget in excess of \$600,000. Included in this purchase is upgraded accountability features in which the incident commander will be able to safely and strategically monitor all members operating inside a hazardous atmosphere.

Helping Hero's, a grant that provides training, equipment or other needs for fire departments, awarded the Victoria Fire Dept. \$10,000 in which was utilized to update equipment for our Hazardous Material's Regional Response Team. INVISTA is a proud supporter of our community and continues to provide for the betterment of our response capabilities.

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection Bi-Annual audit was completed and awarded "NO VIOLATIONS." During this process multiple policies, procedures and daily logs were submitted to a representative whom reviewed to ensure the organization is compliant with all state and federal mandates.

VFD EMS DIVISION Q1 REPORT

January - March 2022

Our 1st quarter of 2023 was very busy for the VFD EMS Division. With COVID dwindling down , we were able to complete our last Booster Clinic and finish up with some Home Bound Vaccines. Hoping everyone continues to remain safe and vigilant while out on duty. Some of the highlights for the 1st Quarter of 2022:

- Leanna Arredondo was selected as Medic of the Quarter
- Had our 1st PCL move into the Fire Academy.
- Performed multiple Flu Clinics and assisted in the Queen City Park Clean Up.
- New Medic Unit!





FIRE CHIEF'S

Message

- Work Life Balance, Its Important-

The Relative Importance of Our Jobs

We have one of the most important jobs in the world. But it is not so important that it should be a detriment to your mental health and your home life. The summer is a great time to re-connect with your family, friends, and hobbies. Focusing on your family, friends, and hobbies is as important as focusing on your career. I hope you take some time and ensure you are achieving an positive work life balance. Below are few good tips for us all.

Quality Time with Loved Ones

Quality family time and time away from work are incredibly important, if not more so than it was before. It can be so easy to bring work home, even if just mentally. We have become used to blurred boundaries between work and life, but how do we separate them again? The best way? Put what matters into perspective and prioritize quality time. When you look back on your life, what do you want to remember? The extra hours you put in at the office while life passed you by or quality time with your loved ones?

Communicate and Learn to Say “No”

The most important way we can achieve that quality time, is to communicate that need with those around us. Explain to your boss that you absolutely need to leave at 5pm to go to your daughter's parent-teacher meeting. This is especially critical if you are high in the personality trait of agreeableness, as you'll be prone to overcommitting and will have difficulty saying “no”. If you absolutely have to work late, call your partner, explain the situation, and on a separate occasion maybe discuss with them a limit on how much overtime you will accept when asked to cover a coworker's schedule, for example. Your time, and the time you spend with your loved ones, is extremely valuable.

Time flies, but You're the Pilot

At the end of the day, there will always be another job. There will not always be another point in time where your kids are still kids who want to spend time and play with you. Times passes by in the blink of an eye, so make sure you're in the driver's seat and taking control of your time. Spend quality time with your parents before the perils of old age catch up with them. Go on date nights with your spouse and work on maintaining a good social life. These are the things that really matter. After all, when the days seem long and the work endless, these are the things that make life worthwhile.

By [Alan Mallory](#)|November 22nd, 2021