



Fire Chief's "Two-Year" Agency Status Report

(July 16th 2007 through July 21st 2009)

Pioneer Fire Protection District

Somerset, California

www.pioneerfire.org

Authored By: Robert L. Gill, District Fire Chief/CEO

Date of Report: Tuesday, July 21st 2009

Our Mission...

Pioneer Fire Protection District strives to provide cost effective, professional, quality emergency response for the protection of life, property and the environment within the District.

We will accomplish this by...

Delivering exceptional service and compassionate solutions as a cohesive team with dedication, vigilance and pride.

Introduction:

Since assuming the role as District Fire Chief for Pioneer Fire Protection District on July 16th 2007, we've made many positive strides forward as an organization, and shall continue to progress into the 21st Century as a top notch emergency response agency. Pioneer Fire has many future potential challenges, fiscally as well as demographically. But with positive and stable leadership, proper guidance, and the will to progress with clear future goals and objectives there is no reason why these challenges can't be met. The District currently **has no debt!** Pioneer Fire as an organization, has a highly trained, professional and motivated work force that has a can-do attitude, and provides our customers with a high level of service. Together as a Team, failure is Not an Option! I look forward to serving Pioneer Fire protection District now, and in the future as YOUR Chief.

Background:

Pioneer Fire Protection District, a **combination** (paid & volunteer) fire protection district was formed pursuant to the Health & Safety Code on December 30th 1980 by LAFCO Resolution L-80-26. The District is located within El Dorado County Board of Supervisors District-2.

The District is located in the central southern portion of El Dorado County, and is approximately 296 square miles in size. Within its boundaries are the communities of Mt. Aukum, Fair Play, Outingdale, Grizzly Flats, Omo Ranch, Sandridge and Somerset, along with 96,920 acres located within the El Dorado National Forest. The District also responds automatic-aid into the Amador County community of River Pines located at the southern most Districts' border.

The national forest lands are Federal Responsibility Area (FRA), and the remaining territory is State Responsibility Area (SRA). There is no Local Responsibility Area (LRA) within the District. The majority of private land use is agricultural, and 3,000 acres are in Williamson Act contracts.

Pioneer Fire Protection District currently maintains an ISO Protection Class Rating of **Five** (5) for the communities of Grizzly Flats and Outingdale where parcels are within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant and within five road miles of a fire station . All other District communities/areas have an ISO Protection Class Rating of **Nine** (9).

Staff:

Pioneer Fire Protection District has six strategically located fire stations within the District, with four volunteer stations and two fire stations staffed 24/7. Fire Station-38 (Three Forks, District Headquarters) located @ 7061 Mt. Aukum Road is staffed 100% of the time with certified state firefighter/emt's. Fire Station-31 (Willows) located @ 7960 Grizzly Flat Road is staffed 65-75% of the time with certified state resident firefighter/emt's and volunteer firefighter/emt's-first responders.

The District provides year round coverage with five volunteer firefighter/emts/first responders, seven paid firefighter/emts/paramedics, seven resident firefighter/emts/paramedics, one paid chief and two paid administrative personnel. Pioneer Fire also has a twenty member citizen Grizzly Flats C.E.R.T. Team under the jurisdiction of the agency, which is only one of two teams listed in that category within El Dorado County. It provides vital logistical support during local emergencies. In 2007 I started a Fire Explorer/Cadet Program through the Boy Scouts of America for our local youth to get involved in local fire/rescue services and prepare them for future potential volunteer/professional firefighter positions.

We just had our **first** district Explorer/Cadet graduate up to a become a new district volunteer firefighter with the agency, Shane Davis.

Current District Fleet:

- One Type-I Engine (*Engine-32, *1987)
- One Type-II Engine (*Engine-38, *2004)
- One Type-III Engine (*Engine-238, *1997)
- Two Type-IV Quick Attack Units (*Squad-31, *2002 & Squad-35, *2003)
- One Water Tender (*Water Tender-38, *3,000-gallons, *1991/2001)
- Two Utility Vehicles (*Utility-35, 1991 & Utility-38, *2001)
- One Command Vehicle (*Chief-8600, *2003)
- One HazMat Decon Trailer Unit (*XEDTrailer-38, *2004)

Emergency Calls for Service through June 30th 2009:

	YTD	2008	2007
Medical Aids & Motor Vehicle Accidents:	152	302	299
Other Fires (Vehicle Fires & Smoke Checks):	19	67	79
Vegetation Fires:	14	18	21
Structure Fires:	4	6	7

- A Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) and two Combustible Gas Indicators (CGI's) were purchased and put on apparatus for personnel use in the field, and for OSHA Compliance.

Emergency Management & Training:

- Implemented a "Firefighter Respiratory Protection Program" with the purchasing of a SCBA Mask Fit Testing Unit, and its data base for OSHA Compliance.
- Implemented an "EMS Continuing Education Program" for our EMT's and 1st Responders with EDC-EMSA, CE Provider Number 09-0017.
- Authored a "District Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) Manual" for operational personnel to follow while performing all their day-to-day duties, totaling 67-SOG's. This manual improves firefighter effectiveness, safety and accountability on and off the fire ground.
- Authored and Implemented District's Firefighter Accountability/**PASS** System.
- Created a District website to provide information to assist our residents, responders and local businesses owners with community announcements and vital fire safety information www.pioneerfire.org
- Started a Fire Explorer/Cadet Program for our potential future firefighters.
- Improved District training by providing a consistent training schedule for response personnel to participate, including lots of hands-on training for responders.
- Upgraded all District training audio/visual aids, purchased new student training manuals, DVD's and textbooks for response personnel to use in the classroom.
- Lead Instructor for the "2008 and 2009 El Dorado County Volunteer Firefighter Academy's Hazardous Material's First Responder Operational (FRO) Level Course".
- Instruct Hazardous Materials and Incident Command Classes as requested for neighboring fire districts upon request.
- Member of the State's "Region-IV CICC'S 300/400 Level PEER Group Committee".
- Brought all District Firefighter's into compliance with NFPA Standards 1001/1002 and NWCG's PMS-310-1 Requirements.

Fire Prevention & Safety:

- Adopted "2007 California Fire Code, along with its 27 pages of Amendments".
- Authored numerous public service announcements (PSA's) for the Mountain Democrat Newspaper, Firehouse Magazine, Around Here Magazine, and our District's website.

- Re-started the “Schools Public Education Programs”.
- Implemented a “Fee Schedule for District Plan Checks & Plan Reviews”.
- Support Local Fire Safe Councils.
- Member of the El Dorado County’s Arson Task Force.

Day-to-Day District Management:

- Authored the **District’s Response** to the “2007-2008 EDC Grand Jury Report”.
- Authored the District’s **first** “Municipal Service Review (**MSR**)” for EDC LAFCO.
- Authored supplemental questions for the upcoming “2009 EDC Fire Service Study” for future potential Aid-to-Fire Funding.
- Authored language for **future potential** “District Parcel Tax or Benefit Assessment Campaign”
- District’s **new** Firefighter Paramedic Program/Service (ALS) **shall commence** on Monday, July 27th @ 10:00 AM, right after Dr. Dave Brazzel 2nd and **final** equipment inspection!
- Authored District’s **first** “Standard of Response Coverage Document”.
- Renewed mutual-aid agreements with State OES, Cal-Fire and the U.S. Forest Service.
- Updated District’s “Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan” with EDC OES, must be updated every 5-years.
- Member, El Dorado County Fire Chief’s Association
- Board Member, El Dorado County EMS JPA.
- Board Member, Fire Districts Association of California
- Implemented a **new** “District Injury & Illness Prevention Program”.
- Adopted “District’s N.I.M.S. Resolution” for emergency agency response, and future grant requirements.
- Implemented a “District Cost Recovery Program and Fee Schedule” for “billable” vehicle accidents, vehicle fires, air ambulance support, hazmat incidents (level-1, 2, 3 or greater), fire investigations, hazmat investigations, and false alarms.
- Authored and **awarded** “2008 California Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Grant” totaling \$16,628 for wildland fire PPE, a (***50/50%** Grant).
- Authored and submitted “2009 FEMA Assistant to Firefighters’ (AFG) Grant” for \$35,966.06 for Structural PPE, a (***95/5%** Grant).

- District participated in the “2009 Fill-the-Boot Event” for the California Firefighters’ Burn Institute and collected a total of **\$2,813.66** the institute.
- PIO Fire Crews supported and participated in EDC Fair in years 2008, and 2009.
- Continued recruitment and retention of local Volunteer Fire personnel.

The Future:

The future of Pioneer Fire Protection District is currently very bright. The key to the success of the organization is employee stability along with fiscal stability while also maintaining a can-do attitude from the top down.

Today, the District has the best work force in El Dorado County, but to maintain that work force we must continue to be able to provide our members a positive work environment, a safe work environment, along with solid, but fiscally responsible benefit programs for them, and their families.

In closing, we must continue to provide our members the best possible training, personal protective equipment, and always continue to seek alternative funding sources as an organization to maintain a continued high level of service to our communities we so proudly serve within the pioneer Fire Protection District.

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Since 1980, serving the El Dorado County communities of Mt. Aukum, Fair Play, Outingdale, Grizzly Flats, Omo Ranch & Somerset!