



# Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

1164 Race Road  
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Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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[www.cwfire.org](http://www.cwfire.org)

To: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Fire Chief Jerry Helm

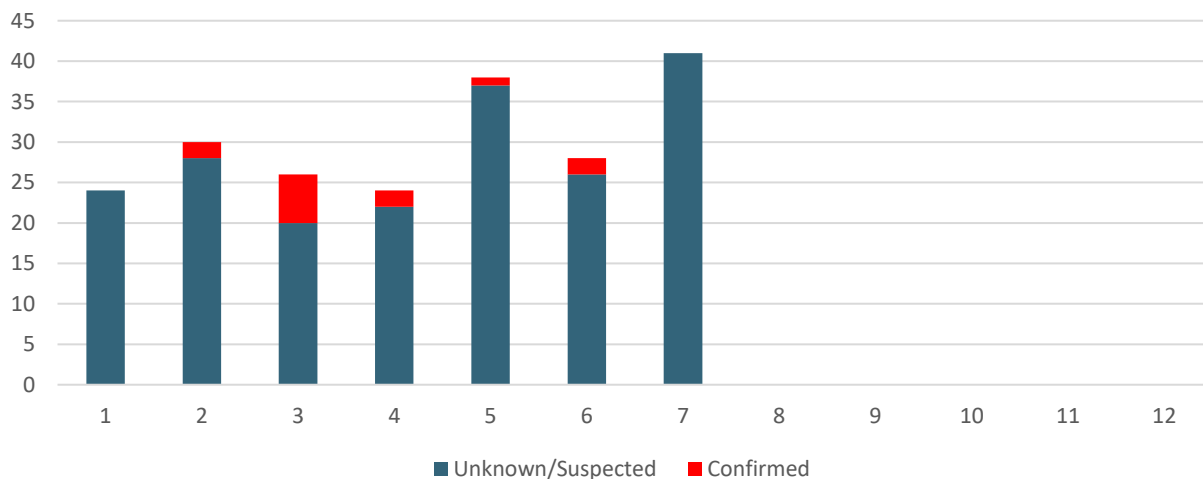
Date: August 9<sup>th</sup> 2023

Subject: Chief's Report

## COVID-19

As illustrated below, COVID-19 has had an ongoing impact on incident operations, but the frequency with which our members encounter it continue to fluctuate through the year. During the month of July, there were **41 incidents where COVID-19 was unknown/suspected and 0 with COVID-19 confirmed.**

2023 Responses Where COVID was a Factor



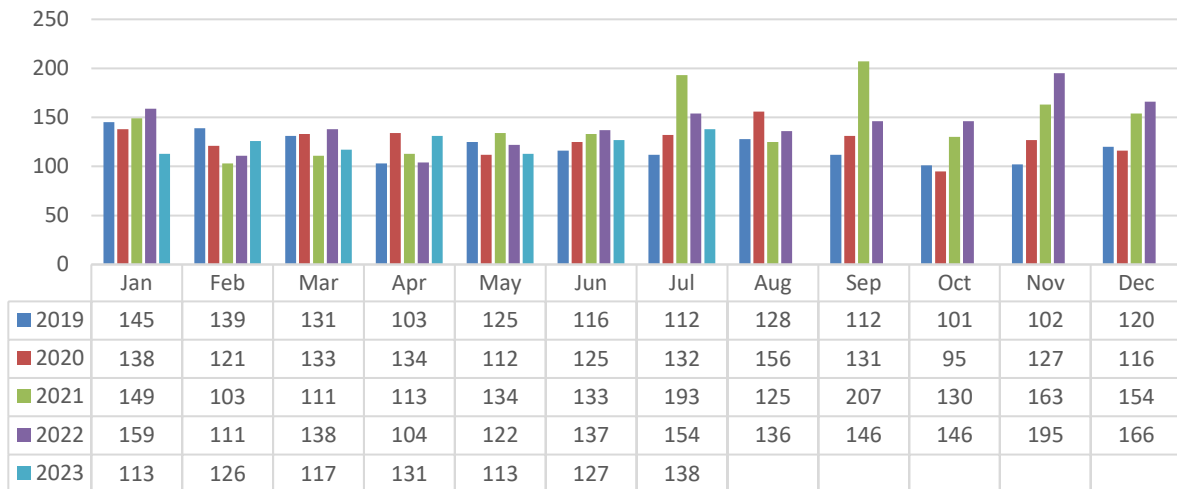
## Operational Activity

During the previous month, the district received **138 calls** for service as illustrated below. The district **had 56 concurrent** incidents, **impacting 40% of total incidences.** This month specifically, concurrent calls continue to strain our current level of staffing and impact response times.

### Frequency By Incident Type

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	9
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	91
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	0
5 - Service Call	8
6 - Good Intent Call	22
7 - False Alarm & False Call	8
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	138

### Incident Frequency by Month



### Station 53 Construction Project

Construction is moving along nicely. Sheetrock and insulation are now going in along with the roof being nearly completed. Sprinkler systems and HVAC installation is ongoing as well, with electrical and plumbing nearing completion. Grading, sidewalks, and curbing work has started and really starting to give shape to the exterior landscaping.

### Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended onsite construction meetings for station 53. Monthly planning meeting with Liz Loomis and the public communications team. Chief Helm attended the Island County Fire Chiefs, EMS council, and ICOM Fire Tac meetings. Contract negotiations with IAFF local 4299 were intentionally paused to allow time for both the district and the local to gather information. We are still on track to meet our goal to ratify a new contract by the end of the year. Planning to resume talks with the local as soon as AIC Lt. Majestic is back from vacation next week. Chief Helm met with Chief Walsh to discuss collaboration on vehicle maintenance.

### Training & Development

***Recruitment:***

- **Volunteers:** The professional development division in collaboration with members Rachel Stern, Travis Dotson, and Justin Burnett deployed a volunteer orientation program to help on-board new members more seamlessly. The district has now held two of these. The program is aimed at getting the new volunteers up and running in a more expeditious manner.
- **EMT Academy:** This is tentatively scheduled in September.

***In-Service Training:***

- The highlight of July in-service training included a refresher for EMS evaluators and a preview of the new EMS protocols. As well, members participated in fire ventilation training session and various on-line training components.

***Collaboration:***

- CWIFR, SWFE, and Camano Island Fire held a work session to further collaboration and cooperation with Island County EMS Council. This work should yield a county-wide OTEP schedule and updated council bylaws. The work is on-going but nearing completion.
- SWFE, specifically Chief Dilley, was instrumental in facilitating the EMS Evaluator refresher.

***Other:***

- Nothing additional

**Operations**

***Asset Management:***

- FF Lloyd has been working on attaching tags with apparatus numbers on our SCBA

***Apparatus Inventory:***

- Lt. Porter, FF's Kellison and Lloyd dedicated time to reorganize E53 for better efficiency.

***Special OPS:***

- Another delay on M5 due to a delay on parts.

***PPE/Respiratory Protection:***

- Two new volunteers outfitted with gear.
- SCBA pack batteries replaced (yearly swap)

- Extractor and SCBA washer quotes gathered
- Air test completed for compressor

***Radio/Pagers:***

- Nothing new to report.

***Medical Supplies and CPR***

- Nothing to report

***Reports:***

- FF Rhodes has conducted review of 134 NFIRS reports for the month of May.

***Other:***

- Inventory and tested newly purchased hose

**Facilities**

***Station 51***

- Add bird spikes to parking lot light
- Replaced flush valves on 2 toilets

***Station 54***

- A new A was installed on the front sign.

***Station 52***

- Nothing to report.

***Station 53***

- See construction notes from Chief Helm

**Community Risk Reduction**

***Inspections:***

- A shift - 5 inspections complete
- B shift - 6 inspections complete
- C shift - 3 inspections complete

***CRR Programs and other activity:***

- LT Porter completed a fire investigation for Terry mobile car fire
- LT Porter worked with National Parks fire investigators on the fire at 144 Fort Casey Road (5 hours).
- LT Porter presented a fire report at the monthly Region 3 task force meeting 7/12/23
- A shift gave an engine tour at Fort Casey for a camping group of special needs teens
- Home safety survey at Olympic View Drive, installing 7 battery operated smoke alarms and 1 CO alarm, all provided by CWIFR
- Crews installed 6 hardwired smoke alarms off Snakelum Point Road in Coupeville

***Collaboration:***

- Nothing to report this month.

**Fleet Maintenance**

***Maintenance:***

- During the month of July FF/Mech Matros attended fire / ems training, coordinated warranty work on the Rosenbauer trucks with U.S. Fire LLC, and performed preventative maintenance and repairs on CWIFR's fleet. Unit 2103 (Thor), returned from U.S. Fire's shop in Sumner WA for cab fabrication and warranty repairs and Unit 2102 (Valkyrie) took its place at U.S. Fire's shop. Valkyrie will be returning early August and Unit 2101 (Loki) will be taking its place completing the rotation of the engines through there shop for warranty and cab fabrication work. CWIFR's new service truck was delivered and FF/Mech Matros is starting the upfit processes in order to put it in service.

***Apparatus Items / Repairs:***

- Unit 0702 – (T-54) – Completed NFPA 1911 inspection and scheduled PM fire pump service.
- Unit 0702 – (T-54) – Received a new coolant surge tank due to tank failure.
- Unit 0603 – (T-51) – Replaced TPG governor control and tank level sensor.
- Unit 1801 – (504) – Received a new coolant surge tank due to a failed coolant level sensor.
- South Whidbey Unit 1001 - Type I engine emergency repair - coolant leak in upper cab.
- Unit 2301 – Service Truck - Transitioning into new truck (on going)