

The Command Post

Volume 6, Issue 1

A Publication of the Little Rock Fire Department

May 2015

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Upcoming Event & Training Dates

Active Aggressor Mass Casualty Incident Training
June 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th

Pump Operations Training
May 26th-28th, June 1st-3rd

Wellness-Fitness Initiative Physicals
May 19th-21st, May 26th-28th, June 2nd-4th

THV Summer Cereal Drive
May 26th-June 19th

From the Chief's Desk



Right Decision, Wrong Decision



There are times in life when you make a decision and you question whether it was the right or wrong choice to make. One key question we must ask is, "how much risk should be taken in making a decision?" In our profession we rely on a risk-vs-benefit model based on Firefighter life safety risk to injury or death. Factors ranging from building characteristics, fire factors- how long has the building been burning, where is the fire, assessing occupant survival probabilities to our own available resources and firefighting capabilities.

Decision is defined as a conclusion or judgment reached after consideration. Every action we take is based off of a decision. The outcome is the result of one's ability to balance emotions and logic to see beyond the tip of our nose and find the best solution. One should not base their decision solely off of logic or emotion; great leaders exemplify the ability to create symmetry between both ends of the spectrum.

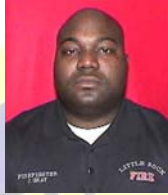
Great leaders know the effects that each decision could have on themselves and others. Harder decisions can be made by weighing the consequences versus the benefits. Every day, we find ourselves faced with more difficult than average choices. We often find ourselves, in this profession, holding someone's life and/or possessions in the balance of whether or not we make the best decisions. We rely on our training and our past experiences to help guide the decision making process to provide the utmost care for ourselves, those that we love, and those that we risk our lives for daily.

A wise person would not blindly venture into the woods without first mapping his or her journey. The same thing can be said about decision making. A wise person will not make a decision without performing a risk-vs-benefit analysis. It is important that we seek out training that will assist us in our journey and yes management has a role in ensuring that you are provided with opportunities. I encourage each of you to take advantage of the National Fire Academy. And remember we're all prone to make mistakes- but it's not the mistake that we make, but how we recover from it!

Promotions



Curtis Smith
Promoted to Captain
on November 6, 2014



Jarrod Gray
Promoted to Captain
on December 10, 2014



Eric Hildreth
Promoted to Captain
on March 6, 2015



Gary Duncan
Promoted to Captain
on April 14, 2015



Frederick Chapple
Promoted to Captain
on April 27, 2015



Ryan Baker
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Jeremy Barber
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Matthew Sanders
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Lance Logan
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Charles Cochran
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Anthony Ajoku
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Gary Seibel
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Jeremy Rappold
Promoted to Engineer
on December 17, 2014



Cody Smith
Promoted to Engineer
on March 2, 2015



James Greilick
Promoted to Engineer
on April 17, 2015



Jeffrey Fryar
Promoted to Engineer
on April 28, 2015

Retirements



Captain William "Bill" Whitt
Retired on
December 1, 2014
After 32 Years of Service



Engineer Korey Isbell
Retired on
December 17, 2014
After 9 Years of Service



Captain Paul Gunther
Retired on
March 1, 2015
After 41 Years of Service



Captain Dwight Mitchell
Retired on
March 30, 2015
After 31 Years of Service



Captain James Coppock
Retired on
April 29, 2015
After 29 Years of Service

THV Summer Cereal Drive

The LRFD and THV11 kick off the Summer Cereal Drive on May 26th, and will run through June 19th. Last year, the Department collected over 16,000 boxes of cereal, and we want to keep the momentum going! All fire stations are being used as collection sites, and we encourage our Little Rock FFs to participate. Monetary donations are welcome at the cost of \$1 for 1 box of cereal. This year, donations can be made online as well. The link can be found on any of the @littlerockfire social media platforms.



Fight for Air Climb

By: FF Bo Hagar

The Fight for Air Climb is one of the American Lung Association's signature fundraising events. With events in more than 65 cities, participants young and old climb to raise funds in support of the mission of the American Lung Association: "to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease."

The Little Rock Fire Department entered a team when the event came through Little Rock on April 11th. Captain Steve Kotch, Engineer Michael Steele, Firefighter Hank Van Rossum, Recruit Firefighter Chance Jackson, and Recruit Firefighter Steven Shelnut all raced at War Memorial Stadium with the drive to make a difference. The team reached the finish line with an average time of seventeen minutes and thirty seconds securing the number one spot, and bringing home a nice trophy to show their dedication to enhancing the lives of others. On top of that, they were also one of the top three fundraising teams for the entire event!

Congratulations on a job well done to all of the Fight For Air Climb Team LRFD members!



Shown Above: A photo of the Fight for Air Climb Trophy awarded to Team LRFD. Photo provided by Captain Steve Kotch of Station 4.

New 2015 Fleet

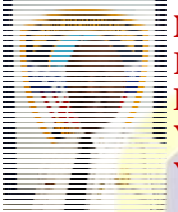
By: FF Bo Hagar

In April of this year, the Little Rock Fire Department took ownership of a fleet of brand new 2015 E-One fire apparatus that were made possible through a public service sales tax increase, and through federal government funding. The apparatus which consist of five new engines, one 100 foot aerial platform, and one heavy rescue have found their new homes and are in service as Engine 3, Engine 7, Engine 14, Engine 18, Engine 19, Truck 15, and Rescue 2. These new apparatus were designed to match the needs of the Little Rock Fire Department, and add to the compliment of the E-One fire apparatus that the City received in 2012. The new engines are equipped with a 720 gallon water tank, 30-gallon Class A foam tank, 30-gallon Class B and a 1,750 gallon per minute discharge capability. Unlike the two previous E-One ladder trucks, the new Truck 15 is outfitted with an aerial platform armed with dual master stream devices, and the new E-One Rescue 2 comes with a number of upgrades that prove to be useful for the Little Rock Fire Department Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team. With the purchase of this new fleet accompanied with the four previously purchased E-One engines and two E-One aerial ladder trucks, the average age of the engine fleet is 2008 and the average age of the Department's aerial fleet is 2005.



Shown Above: A photo of the department's new engine and aerial fleet at the Clinton Presidential Center. Photo provided by FF Bo Hagar.

Meet the Marshals



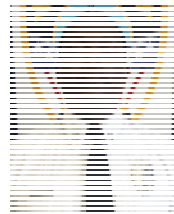
Name: Joe Gray
Rank: Division Chief
Position: Chief Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 27 years
Years in Current Position: 5 years

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

Hobbies include bike riding and working out; my interests are giving back to the community and spending time with my family and close friends.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

I am responsible for supervising the members of the Fire Prevention and Community Outreach Division. I am also responsible for fire safety education, investigating citizen complaints and Internal Affairs matters. I oversee inspection of night clubs and commercial businesses for occupancy and code compliance, monitoring residential and commercial burn permits, and many other activities to ensure the safety and welfare of the citizens of Little Rock.



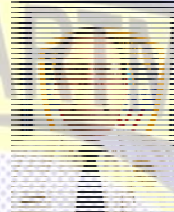
Name: Derek Ingram
Rank: Firefighter
Position: Asst. Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 1.5 Years
Years in Current Position: 5 mos.

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

My hobbies are playing basketball and staying fit. I love traveling with family and friends. I'm in the U.S. Army Reserve (CBRN- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Specialist - DECON and RECON)

What are your specific job responsibilities?

I'm responsible for inspection of restaurants and night clubs specifically. I also assist in opening new businesses and making sure old businesses adhere to fire and building codes.



Name: Randy Davenport
Rank: Captain
Position: Deputy Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 35 years
Years in Current Position: 17 years

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

When I am not working I try to deer hunt and fish as much as I can. My most important thing to do is to do my best to please my new wife of 4 years.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

Review internal affairs cases, assist in plans review, inspect and issue certificates of occupancy for businesses, approve tent and fireworks permits.



Name: John Hogue
Rank: Captain
Position: Asst. Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 17 years
Years in Current Position: 1 year

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I love the outdoors and love spending time with my family. I have two kids Madison 9 and Caleb 8. Caleb loves football and racing his dirt bikes, I spend time helping Caleb work on his racing skills. Madison loves playing basketball and I spend time working on her playing skills. I like helping and watching my kids play their sports. We love going camping as a family and riding four wheelers and dirt bikes on the weekends.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

I assist with plans review and I am responsible for inspecting all the daycares in the City of Little Rock. I also am the rescue manager for Central Arkansas Task Force 1 and work with the Little Rock USAR team.

Meet the Marshals



Name: Warren Robinson
Rank: Captain
Position: Outreach Coordinator
Years of Service: 18 Years
Years in Current Position: 3 years

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I am Warren Robinson Sr., married to Valarie Robinson, father of three, Graduate of Ashdown High School and Henderson State University. I was raised in Ogden, AR.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

As the Community Outreach Coordinator for the LRFD, I reach out to the community to help educate about fire and life safety issues and matters. I also assist with recruitment and a number of other events that impact the City of LR.



Name: Bo Hagar
Rank: Firefighter
Position: Accreditation Coordinator
Years of Service: 8 Years
Years in Current Position: 3 Years

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I am a husband and have two kids (1 girl and 1 boy). I am a photographer, musician, and tech geek. I also coach little league baseball and basketball.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

I manage the accreditation process which consists of compiling information and statistics based on the City of Little Rock and the LRFD, writing reports, tracking data and trends, and helping the Department meet industry best practices and standards set forth by the Center for Public Safety Excellence. I also teach various fire safety programs, coordinate the Little Rock Fire Corps Volunteers, and help organize and increase the Department's community outreach efforts.



Name: Kevin Hollins
Rank: Captain
Position: Asst. Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 21 years
Years in Current Position: 6 mos.

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I enjoy fishing, cycling and watching documentaries.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

Arson investigations and school inspections.



Name: Stanley McKinney
Rank: Captain
Position: Asst. Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 21 years
Years in Current Position: 1 year

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I enjoy building and working on model trains in my spare time. I worked for the retired Vice President of operations for the Dallas Cowboys at his home office in Little Rock last year. Really enjoy traveling and meeting and I am a military buff.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

Inspections, high rise safety planning and assist in day care inspections and internal affairs investigations.



Name: Tony Rhodes
Rank: Captain
Position: Asst. Fire Marshal
Years of Service: 21 years
Years in Current Position: 2 years

In 2 to 3 sentences give a brief description of who you are (hobbies, interests, skills, etc.):

I enjoy traveling and working out.

What are your specific job responsibilities?

Plans and sprinkler review, inspections for certificates of occupancy for businesses.

Firefighter Profiles



Name: Bob Sharp
Rank: Captain
Station-Shift: 40 HR
Years of Service: 29



Name: Quatecia Liggins
Rank: Firefighter
Station-Shift: 15/ E-15
Years of Service: 1 yr., 10 mos.

Q: What are your hobbies/interests?

A: Family, Church activities, fishing if they're biting.

Q: What motivates you to do what you do in your personal and professional life?

A: Family

Q: What would someone be surprised to know about you?

A: That my dream job as a child was to be a banker.

Q: What are you most proud of?

A: My family

Q: How would you like to be remembered?

A: As a non-deadbeat

Q: What are your hobbies/interests?

A: I enjoy writing poetry and playing basketball

Q: What motivates you to do what you do in your personal and professional life?

A: I am motivated by the people I help, those I serve and those who look up to me. I have the opportunity to positively influence those in my community and to do something that my family can be proud of. That keeps me going and striving for better.

Q: What would someone be surprised to know about you?

A: People are surprised that I am a Firefighter and I actually get to fight fires.

Q: What are you most proud of?

A: Earning my Bachelor's degree from Arkansas State University and becoming a Little Rock firefighter.

Q: How would you like to be remembered?

A: I want to be remembered as a woman of good faith, good character and integrity. I also want to be remembered as a loving person with a lively personality and big smile.

Firestone Makes Donation

On March 6th, Firestone Complete Auto Care held a grand opening ceremony for its newest location located at 7426 Cantrell Road. Upon opening, Firestone made a \$250 donation to the department. The check was received by our Public Information Officer on behalf of the Department. Thank you for your contribution!



Above: Chief Summers and Bridget McLemore, Administrative Assistant. Photo provided by Brittanye Gyce.



Donor?

The LRFD wants

YOU

to donate at the

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive!

Call 501-918-3710 for details

Target Solutions

The Little Rock Fire Department is committed to providing the men and women who carry out its mission the best fire recruit training and in-service training across multiple disciplines within the organization. The department currently operates with a Training Officer to firefighter ratio of 1:100; approximately 100 firefighters per training officer. For this reason, a web-based training component has been added to assist the Training Division in reaching its training goals and help retain training records for all 400+ personnel in a more feasible manner.

Target Solutions is an online training tool that allows department personnel to take web-based training courses that are essential to their daily job functions. The program gives training officers the ability to build training modules, tests, and assignments and track them electronically. It also gives them the ability to track the necessary credentials of each firefighter such as EMT licensure and firefighting certifications. The program requires personnel to log into the system daily to review and complete any modules assigned. Once completed, the system will notify the Training Staff of an individual's completion and/or provide a printable certificate to keep for record. This web-based component allows training officers to place a more concentrated effort

on in-service training by freeing up classroom instruction. As a result, training officers are better able to track each individual's progress. In addition, the city and the fire department will recognize savings in fuel and wear and tear on the existing fleet of apparatus. This program will also assist in tracking records for National agencies that require them for auditing purposes.

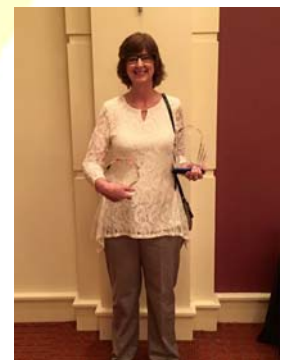
The City of Little Rock entered into a contract with Target Solutions in October 2014, with services beginning November 1, 2014. With the help of Battalion Chief Jeff West, the department partnered with Information Technology (IT) to formulate a plan to test the platform before it was implemented. Five fire stations were selected to test the system. Those stations were: Station 1, Station 2, Station 9, Station 11 and Station 19. Personnel from these stations were set up as users on the program to test the functionality of it while IT personnel worked to ensure that the program worked smoothly over the City network. After working to weed out any potential issues with the program, Target Solutions went live late March-early April of this year.

Training has gone well with the program and it proves to be a benefit to the Training Staff, who work diligently to keep the members of our organization well-trained.

LRFD Employees Recognized for Their Service

By: Tabitha Cooke, Administrative Asst.

On Wednesday, May 6, 2015, an Employee Recognition Program was held at the Double Tree Hotel to acknowledge City of Little Rock employees who exhibit a high quality of job performance and contribute to the quality of life within the City. In recognition of their service, Purchasing Agent, Sharon Forrester received awards for 40 years of service to the City of Little Rock and LRFD Employee of the Year while Administrative Assistant Tabitha Cooke was recognized for Outstanding Service from City Manager, Bruce Moore.



Above left to right: Tabitha Cooke and Sharon Forrester.
Photos provided by Assistant Chief Doug Coney.

Rotary Awards

On Tuesday, March 3rd, the Downtown Rotary Club held its Annual Police and Fire Rotary Luncheon to recognize department members and civilians who exhibited actions that proved to be above and beyond the normal call of duty. The following individuals received awards from both the Rotary Club and the Little Rock Fire Department.

Firefighter of the Year

Captain Robert Sharp

Recruit of the Year

PFF Steve Adams

Fire Marshal of the Year

FF Ryan Baker*

Meritorious Service Medal

Captain Robert Sharp

Lifesaving Medal

A/C John Carey*
FF Charles Cochran
Capt. Ryan Kurosaki*
Capt. Davbram Flowers
FF Kentrell Shepard

A/E Jeremy Nixon*
A/E Matthew Davis*
Eng. Landon Engleman*
Eng. Roy Wert
FF Ben Hammond

Bravery Medal

FF Anthony Barker

FF Justin Puckett

Individual Citation

FF Anthony Barker
FF Brad Sanders
FF Ryan Baker*

FF Justin Puckett
FF Brandon Gattis

Unit Citation Award

Battalion 1, A-Shift
Engine 2, A-Shift
HazMat 11, A-Shift
Engine 14, C-Shift

Engine 1, A-Shift
Res2cue, A-Shift
Engine 14, B-Shift

Performance Service Ribbon

Eng. Landon Engleman* FF William Bowden
Capt. Warren Robinson Capt. John Hogue
FF Thurman "Bo" Hagar FF Ryan Baker*
Tabitha Cooke, Administrative Assistant

Firefighter of the Month

January: FF William Bowden
May: FF Joshua Karriem
October: FF Tommy Wright
December: Captain Richard Hudson
 FF Brody Channell
 FF Joshua Karriem

Citizen Good Samaritan Award

Heather Hunter Nick Thomas
Regina Green Melissa Martin
Erin Lien Karen Caster
Elyse Beard Corey Castleberry
Gregory Westman Sarah Gerke
Sherre Sachar Maggie Quinn
Melissa Martin Paul Caster
Sarah Kline Billy Jack Hathcock
Jim Newman Donnie Childers
Johnny Renuard Johnny Marchant
Carrie Day Antonio Coley
Christopher DerManouelian Marcus Christopher
Mike Compton Brooks Jackson
Landon Hammond

Citizen Life-Saving Award

Kevin Cox Candace Woodruff
Billy Jack Hathcock Jason Anderson
Dewayne Graves

*denotes rank at the time awarded

Congratulations to all!!!