

## **Attachment A**

Fire Department Newsletter





# NEWSLETTER



*Victorville*

**VOL. 14 JUNE 2024**



# ADMINISTRATION

## JUNE EVENTS

- 6/3** • ME311 attended Memorial at Federal Correctional Complex
- FS314 Station Tour
- 6/5** • Endeavour School of Exploration water day
- 6/10** • FS311 Ride Along – Chris Jackson
- 6/12** • Champions career day
- 6/13** • Champions Irwin Academy
- 6/15** • FS311 Ride Along – Jose Gallardo
- 6/18** • Bring Your Dog to Work Day
- 6/21** • Gus Franklin Jr. Stem fun Friday
- 6/24** • FS311 Station Tour
- 6/26** • FS311 & FS313 walk through for remodel
- 6/28** • 6/28 – FS315 Ride Along – Diana Zaragoza
- 6/28 – COV Concert in the park – Admin staff Karem, Yesenia and DC Roach and crews participated

## RECRUITMENTS

- Battalion and Training Battalion Chief testing was held on 6/24 & 6/25
- FF/PM & FF/EMT posted on June 26th – Application deadline of July 30th
- Deputy Fire Marshal posted on June 28th – Application deadline of July 3rd



**Bring Your Dog to  
Work Day**



## PARTICIPANTS

Karem Ostrom, Chief Clemmer, Casey and Mallory McPherson-Blas, and David Vega.

Congratulations to Chief Clemmer, who won “cutest costume” and Mallory, who won “most original” also thank you to BC Washington, Capt. Altman, Eng. Jensen and FFPM Moreno for coming out!







# UPDATE

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In June 2024, we evaluated and trialed two video laryngoscopes during paramedic training. We had a few of our EMS cadre and other paramedics sample and review these devices and provide clinical feedback. Video laryngoscopes offer an advantage over direct laryngoscopes by allowing a better view of the glottis (vocal cords) than direct laryngoscopy. Our current King Vision will be phased out next year because the manufacturer has stopped production of these devices.



UEScope2



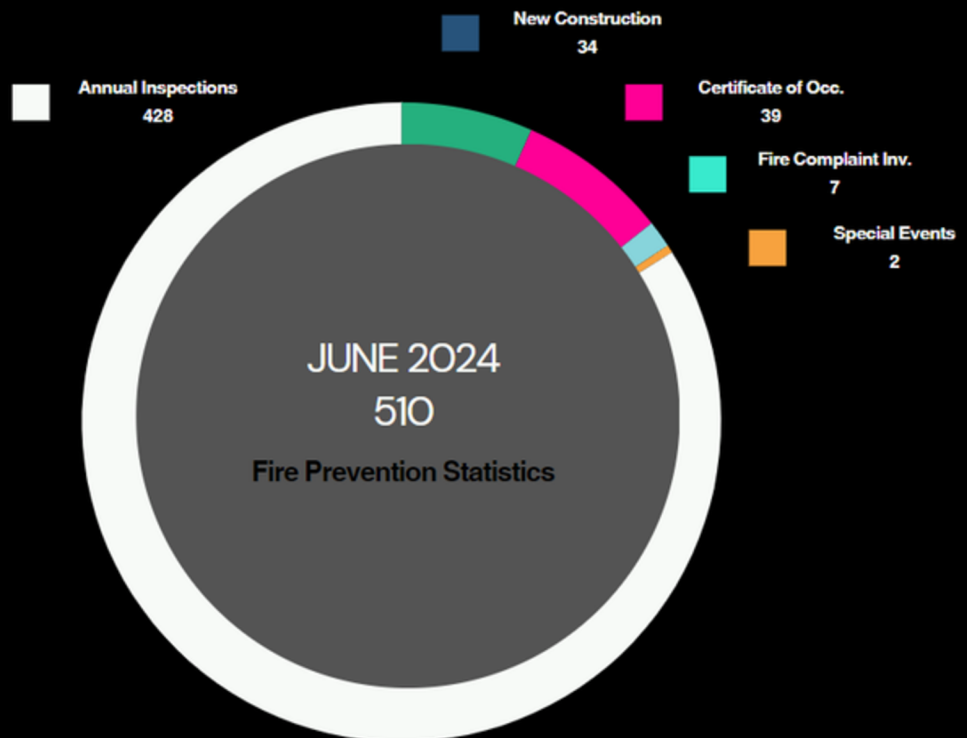
A pediatric resuscitation bag has also been evaluated. This new bag, with its dedicated design for pediatric use, allows weight-based specific equipment to be isolated from adult equipment, enhancing the efficiency and safety of pediatric resuscitation. It will also store our new i-Gels (supraglottic airway devices), neonatal resuscitation equipment, pediatric bag valve masks, and OB kit.



# PREVENTION



	<b>New Construction</b> Final Fire, rough/hydro, prewire & welding.	
	<b>Certificate of Occupancy</b> Businesses under new owner or location changed (Combined w/annual inspection).	
	<b>Fire Complaint Investigations</b> Inspectors look for issues with alarm or sprinklers and any violations of code.	
	<b>Special Event Permits</b> Any event that will have a tent, bounce house, vendors, food (major.Minor events)	
	<b>Annual Inspections</b> Yearly compliance and regulation inspection to verify a business is up to code.	



## UPDATE

Fire Prevention has transitioned to the Building Department. Moving forward, they will update their statistics within building rather than fire. While we'll miss our members from the fire department, we're pleased they're just one department over. This change ensures a streamlined approach to safety and compliance efforts, reinforcing our commitment to serving the community.



# Inter Agency Training



The week of June 17th, our department had the privilege of hosting Reach Air Medical at Fire Station 311 for a comprehensive training session. Notably, Reach flew directly from their base station to our location specifically for this event, underscoring their commitment to effective collaboration and emergency response. The training was aimed at strengthening our partnership and enhancing operational procedures. Reach conducted specialized training to familiarize themselves with our team and vice versa, ensuring seamless coordination during critical operations.

The training session covered several key aspects essential for effective inter-agency cooperation. One major focus was on radio communications, crucial for clear and efficient information exchange during emergencies. Reach Medical Air personnel reviewed protocols and best practices, ensuring that both teams could communicate effectively and swiftly during critical moments.

Another critical area of training involved landing and loading procedures. The Reach team provided insights into safe and efficient helicopter landing techniques, emphasizing the importance of a clear and secure landing zone. They also discussed loading procedures, ensuring that our personnel understood how to safely transfer patients to the helicopter, prioritizing patient care and safety throughout the process.



# Continued.

In addition to operational procedures, Reach engaged with our staff to enhance patient care environments. They discussed our department's protocols and procedures to ensure alignment and create a seamless continuum of care from the scene of an incident to the hospital. This collaboration is designed to improve patient outcomes and maintain a safe and supportive environment throughout patient transport, reinforcing our shared commitment to high-quality care.

A highlight of the training session was Reach's announcement of their new capability to transport blood for patients in need during transit. This significant advancement in our region's emergency medical services allows for critical life-saving interventions even before patients reach definitive care facilities. Beyond the technical aspects, the session also focused on relationship building, fostering mutual understanding and trust between our teams.

Thank you again to everyone from Reach who came out to this training!





# Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher



During some of the hottest days this month, our crews participated in our annual training session. The focus of this year's training was a comprehensive review and practice of the hose lay drill, with particular attention to procedures for an "incident within an incident," also known as an 9 Line, as detailed in the Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG).

These crucial procedures were developed following the "Dutch Creek Incident," a significant event that occurred in 2008 during the Iron Complex Fire in Northern California. Fire Engineer Blas was actively involved in this incident, where a firefighter was down on the line during a wildland fire, highlighting the importance of these protocols. The 9 Line procedures serve a similar purpose to the Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) protocols used in structure fires, ensuring that our teams are prepared to respond swiftly and effectively in emergency situations where a firefighter's life is at risk.

By revisiting the lessons from the Dutch Creek Incident, our crews reinforced their knowledge and skills, ensuring that they are well-prepared to handle any unexpected situations that may arise during firefighting operations. The training underscored our commitment to safety and preparedness, even under extreme conditions, and reinforced the critical importance of thorough and ongoing training in maintaining the well-being and effectiveness of our team.





# Continued



Engineer Blas introduced our new Advance Life Support (ALS) bags this month during RT-130 training. These new bags, allocated to all Type 3 Brush engines, are a significant addition to our arsenal. Engineer Blas, with the assistance of our EMS Manager, designed these ALS bags to significantly enhance our emergency response capabilities. They provide suppression personnel with essential advanced medical supplies during incidents, empowering us to handle a wider range of emergencies effectively. These bags have been modified from the ICEMA Fireline paramedic inventory, ensuring they meet our operational needs without reclassifying the Brush engines as “Medic Engines.”

These bags were designed for emergency use when a Fireline paramedic is unavailable or when the estimated time of arrival (ETA) for ALS intervention is extended.

Each bag, equipped with four clips and a waist strap, can be securely attached to the back of line gear. This setup ensures that crews operating on the line can easily transport the equipment, particularly when returning to the brush engines for medical supplies might not be feasible.

Additionally, paramedics at Stations 312 and 314 will play a crucial role in maintaining the readiness and effectiveness of these bags. As part of their regular equipment inspections, they will be responsible for checking out these bags, ensuring accountability for par levels and expiration dates. This proactive approach is particularly important during the critical wildland fire season.





# Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher



Led by Engineer Max Chavez, the second segment of RT-130 involved crews participating in a water reservoir training exercise, with the reservoir commonly referred to as a "pumpkin." This session was designed to enhance our team's skills in sourcing water from static reservoirs, a critical component in effective firefighting, especially in remote and rural areas.

The "pumpkin," a portable water reservoir, is a vital tool in wildfire and aircraft firefighting. During the training, our crews practiced the essential techniques required to efficiently draw water from these static sources.

This hands-on exercise is crucial for situations where traditional water sources are scarce, ensuring a steady water supply during firefighting. These quickly deployable reservoirs provide critical water for helicopters and other aircraft, enhancing our ability to combat large-scale fires. The training reinforced existing skills and introduced new techniques for efficient water sourcing, preparing our crews for diverse and challenging firefighting scenarios.





# The Pack Test

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## WORK CAPACITY TESTING FOR WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS: ENSURING WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY

Our crews recently completed the pack test as a component of their RT-130 training, a prerequisite for obtaining their red card certification essential for participation in strike teams. The red card serves as a national standard qualification indicating firefighters' readiness to effectively respond to wildfires.

The pack test itself is a rigorous assessment designed to evaluate physical readiness and endurance. It involves walking three miles within 45 minutes while carrying a 45-pound pack. This challenge simulates the physical demands of firefighting in rugged terrain and

under potentially hazardous conditions. By successfully completing the pack test, our crews demonstrate their ability to sustain physical exertion over extended periods, a critical factor in ensuring their safety and effectiveness during wildfire operations.

Obtaining the red card and passing the pack test is not just a procedural requirement but a testament to our firefighters' commitment to readiness and professionalism. It signifies their preparedness to join strike teams and engage in coordinated efforts to combat wildfires, protecting lives, property, and natural resources in our communities.

