

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue 2021 Annual Report



We, the members of the Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department, dedicate our efforts to provide for the safety and welfare of the public through preservation of life, health, property, and the environment.

Message from the Chief

It is my honor to present to you, the Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department's 2021 Annual Report. This report is intended to provide details about the remarkable services each member of our department contributes to every day. On the following pages, you will find the highlights of the Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department 2021 year in review. While most people readily identify with our medical, fire and special operations services, they may not grasp the expertise the fire medical rescue department provides in other areas. Such areas include building and fire code enforcements, plan review of buildings, fire prevention and suppression systems, emergency planning for community events, fleet management, emergency medical transportation and public education.

As I composed the 2021 message, I reflected on the challenges we faced as a department and a community in 2020. We faced the beginning of a pandemic, a train derailment, and the tragic loss of Firefighter Tommy Arriaga. Both the pandemic and train derailment were extremely challenging but resulted in very positive outcomes due to the commitment and training of our membership. It has been two years since Tommy passed and we celebrated his life during a remembrance ceremony at the Tempe Training Facility on March 6th. Tommy continues to remind us, every day, how lucky we are to be a part of Tempe Fire Medical Rescue -- something he truly loved -- and how fragile life can be. He also reminds us, "it's cool to be clean!". January 15, 2021, marked 41 years since we lost Firefighter Paramedic Ed Gaicki. Due to the COVID restrictions, we were unable to celebrate Ed's life like we had done for so many years in the past. Both Arriaga and Gaicki were gone too soon, but the memory of each will always be in our hearts.

On January 26, 2020, Arizona reported the first COVID-19 case, bringing the nationwide total to five. On March 20, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. The last pandemic we encountered was H1N1 in 2009. Throughout 2021 Tempe Fire Medical Rescue faced many new challenges brought on by several new variant waves. We continued to face a myriad of critical needs to prevent, respond to and control the spread of COVID-19. All the members of TFMRD have faced these challenges with grit, determination, and selflessness. I am thankful for the work they do to protect our community, especially as a global pandemic has added extra obstacles and a form of danger we had not encountered in the past.

In 2022 we will continue to provide for the safety of Tempe residents, visitors, and workforce. We will continue to adapt to any future COVID-19 waves. We will continue to work toward several planned programs and projects. A few of the big projects include starting construction on Station 2, placing BC272 into service, two more ambulances and a new ladder truck in-service. Our commitment to serving our community is made possible through the ongoing support we receive from the citizens of Tempe, Mayor, City Council, City Manager, Tempe Chapter of Local 493 and City Departments.

I'm honored to have been given the opportunity to continue to serve this department and community as the Fire Medical Rescue Chief.



Accomplishments

Emergency Management

- Initiated and supported the Incident Management Team in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Established critical guidelines and recommendations for COVID-19 vaccinations for the City of Tempe
- Completed the Five-Year Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan with Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management
- Developed a newly formed volunteer organization for the City of Tempe, the READI Team to build community Resilience through Engagement, Action, Dedication, and Inclusion
- Renovated the City of Tempe's Emergency Operation Center (EOC) with new technology and furniture for use in emergencies, training, and education

Personnel and Professional Development

- Conducted Extrication Training, Vertical Ventilation Training, and High Rise Phase 4 Training
- Hosted AZ Fire & Medical Authority Engineer Academy
- Hosted AZ State Fire School
- Hosted COVID Vaccine Site

Special Teams and Programs

- Trained 3 new Technical Rescue Team Technicians
- Trained 3 new Hazardous Material Technicians
- 3 new members added to Medic SWAT Unit team. Medic SWAT Unit attended CONTOMS tactical medic course
- Trained two new members as Threat Liaison Officers

Emergency Medical & Support Services

- Achieved an AZ SHARE survival score of 41%
- On-boarded 20 new civilian paramedics and EMT's for two new ambulances
- Participated in City's Incident Management Team for Covid-19 (vaccination branch)
- Partnered with MCDPH, OCCMED911 and various COT departments to vaccinate 7,545 people to date
- Implemented a program in partnership with MCDPH on delivering Covid Rapid Antigen test kits
- PAS awarded JEMS magazine EMS10 Innovator of the Year award
- Taught CCR in high schools to 882 students



Joining the Department

Austin Henige	Emergency Medical Tech	Annette Betancourt	Fire Inspector II+
Francisco Hernandez	Emergency Medical Tech	Teddy Koehler	Fire Inspector II+
Tanner Mann	Emergency Medical Tech	John Land	Firefighter+
Tyler Williams	Emergency Medical Tech	Reynaldo Acevedo	FF Recruit
Kori Belliston	Emergency Paramedic	Carlos Leyva-Heredia	FF Recruit

Promotions

- Tim Short—Engineer Paramedic
- Kyle McGauley—Engineer
- Kevin Johnston—Engineer Paramedic
- Glen Damiani—CPT/PM/TRT
- Luke Mathews—Firefighter / Paramedic
- Cory Nuss—Firefighter / Paramedic
- Ryan Martinez—Firefighter / Paramedic
- Ben Dubin—Firefighter / Paramedic
- Jon Reese—CPT/PM/TRT
- Rick Ellefson—Firefighter / Paramedic
- John Moe—Firefighter
- Tim Short—Engineer Paramedic
- Tyler O’Brien—Firefighter
- Mark Kinney—Firefighter Paramedic
- Eric Arias—HAZMAT
- Dustin Preston—HAZMAT
- Brandon Serio—HAZMAT
- Lance Carlson—Engineering Paramedic
- Austin Jardine—Firefighter Paramedic
- Scott Leathum—Captain Paramedic



Recognition

- Mike Carnes
Award of Merit
- Mitch Bycura
Volunteer Award 2021
- Jason Dean
Medal of Valor
- Brandon Siebert
Son’s of the American Revolution Fire
Safety Commendation Award
- Meagan Clark
Kyle Brayer Cadet of the Year
- Ernie Paquette
CERT Volunteer Award 2021
- David Fabok
The 2021 Jim Gaintner Leadership
Award



STATISTICS

CITY INFORMATION

Land Area	40.2 sq. mi.
Population	180,587

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Total Personnel	228
Sworn Personnel	167
Civilian Personnel	61
FD Operating Budget	\$50,842,982
Insurance Services Office Rating	1
Total Emergency Calls	29,439
Fire	2,878
EMS (Medical Calls)	24,966
Other	1,595
Ambulance Transports	8,997
Drownings	5
Advanced Life Support Response Time	06:41
Fire Response Time	07:27

INCIDENTS BY PROPERTY USE

Public Assembly	867
Educational	293
Health Care	1,069
Residential	13,483
Mercantile/Business	2,291
Industrial	16
Manufacturing	25
Storage	157
Outside	5,744

FIRE INSPECTIONS

High Risk Occupancy Inspections	769
Moderate Risk Occupancy Inspections	34
Low Risk Occupancy Inspections	44
Construction Permit Plan Reviews	1,131
Construction Permit Inspections	1,014
Total Occupancy Inspections/Activities	6,666

INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

Fire Investigations	137
Other calls for service	67
Total calls for service	204

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS BY

Unintentional	50%
Undetermined	36%
Intentional	14%

COMMUNITY AND LIFE LOSS PREVENTION SERVICES

Smoke Alarms Installed	345
Juvenile Fire Setter Interventions	0
Car Seats and Booster Safety Seats	100

Community Outreach Through Technology Platforms

Social Media Reach January 1st to December 31st, 2021

Facebook:

- Page Followers: 7,299
- Page Reach = 147,827 (increase of 177.9% from previous year)
- Page and Profile Visits = 12,695 (increase of 86.7% from previous year)
- New Page Likes and Followers = 660 (increase of 38.7% from previous year)

Instagram (began in May 2021 with concerted effort beginning in September):

- Page Followers: 1,381
- Page Reach = 14,465 (100% increase from previous year)
- Page and Profile Visits = 4,669 (increase of 100% from previous year)
- New Page Likes and Followers = 1,192

Top Reaching Posts (above 10,000 views):

1. One Drowning is Too Many *video* (19,706 views)
2. Hydrate! Hydrate! Hydrate! (12,248 views)
3. Memorial Day Tribute *video* (11,759)
4. Thank You to All Who Have Served Our Country *video* (11,092 views)
5. Paramedic Must Continually Train Skills *video* (10,259 views)

Public Safety Quarterly Newsletter Recipients/Readership

Summer	2021	<u>2,072</u>
Fall	2021	<u>2,135</u>
Winter	2021	<u>2,252</u>

YouTube channel

Subscribers	136
Views Videos Posted	389



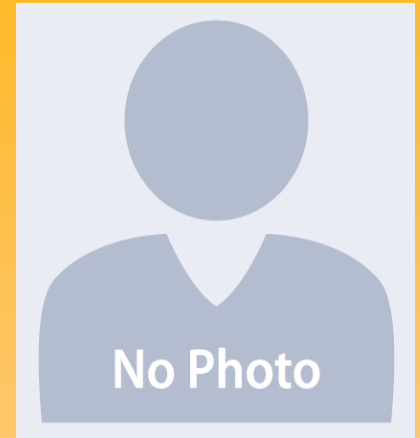
Retirements



**Fire Captain
Rob Anders
1/17/21**



**Firefighter Paramedic
Dale Huddleston
1/30/21**



**Fire Captain Paramedic
Dan Fonseca
1/20/21**



**Engineer Paramedic
Thomas Letter
2/26/21**



**Engineer Paramedic
Shawn Lewis
6/4/21**



**Fire Inspector
James Walker
12/3/21**



Grants & Donations Received

- Arizona Department of Homeland Security; \$108,942 to cover the cost of training for the Department's technical rescue and hazardous materials teams.
- Arizona Department of Homeland Security; \$16,200 to pay for training for the Department's Threat Liaison Officer (TLO) program.
- Arizona Department of Homeland Security; \$978 in reallocated federal fiscal year 2019 funds to purchase equipment to support the Community Emergency Response Team program.
- Air Products Foundation; \$3,000 to support the Department's Patient Advocate Services program.
- 100 Club of Arizona; \$40,000 to purchase safety equipment for the Department's Medical Support Unit.
- Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Grant; \$90,000 to support the Patient Advocate Services Program.
- Anita S. Kucera; \$500 for the Paramedic Donations Fund.
- The Meadows Mobile Home Community; \$3,309 for the Paramedic Donations Fund.

Looking Forward

New Apparatus- TFMR will take delivery of four E-One pumpers. These new pumpers will be on the E-One Typhoon chassis, each with a 1500 gpm pump and 500 and 40 gallon water and foam tanks. The trucks will be designed with several features which will improve safety and help to protect the health of our firefighters. The department will also be designing and purchasing a ninth ambulance, a high rise response support truck, and an aerial apparatus in FY 2023, all of which will most likely be placed into service sometime in early FY 2024.

Fire Station 2- Construction of a new fire station on the property of the existing Fire Station 2 will begin in FY 2023. The new facility will allow for improved health and safety of firefighters as well as improved response times due to a more modern functional configuration. The larger space will enable the department to accommodate ambulance service from the station in a manner that is not possible now.

Fire Training Center- The first phase of this project is complete for the Skills Building repair which was in accordance with a structural evaluation conducted in 2012. Design work for the burn room prop is complete and construction will begin in FY 2023. The Fire Training Center Burn Room building was constructed in 1993. Extensive use of the facility and the significant benefits derived from firefighter training directly impact the delivery of service to the community. The burn room prop sustains incremental damage with each live fire training, and thus the life of the structure is limited. A modern, redesigned burn prop will facilitate training on techniques which will equip the departments firefighters to mitigate structure fires quickly and safely.

Fire Station 1- This year, construction will begin to renovate the bathroom facilities at station 1. The long-term intent of the department is to retrofit the current group showers at all TFMR stations which still do not have individual private showers (stations 1,3, and 6). This will improve the privacy each member will have when taking a shower or using the bathroom facilities and improve working conditions for all employees at the stations. These renovations are in line with the recommendation for fire stations per the 2018 FEMA report by the US Fire Administration, "Safety and Health Considerations for the design of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Stations."