



Monday  
May 30, 2022

# County Fire

Issue #2

Latest news and bulletin updates

## The scoop of the day

County Fire receives Class 3  
ISO  
Rating



County Fire  
began the  
updated  
rating

process with the Insurance Service Office (ISO) in the Spring of 2021. Wildfire activity last summer caused several delays in the evaluation of the district. On April 25, 2022, the district received the final report of our ISO evaluation and subsequent rating. The District had been previously rated as a Class 4/4X Department, the result of this evaluation provided an improved rating of Class 3/3X. This new rating will take effect August 1, 2022. Several factors affected our scoring and improved rating; the addition of 3-person engine companies, the addition of the second person in fire prevention, improved documentation tracking our public education activities, and our auto-aid “drop boundary” dispatching. We continued to score high in the areas of training, fleet, and operations. One of the areas that we lose considerable points on is our “Deployment Analysis”, which is the amount of development within our district that is within 1.5 road miles of a staffed station.

16% of the fire departments across the Nation receive an ISO rating of Class 3 or better. We should all be proud of this improvement and recognition of our district and the service we provide.



## Congratulations Captain Duncan

The latest updates to get you through the day

Monday, May 30, 2022. With his family present, Firefighter Paramedic Derek Duncan was promoted to the rank of Fire Captain this morning at Station 17. Captain Duncan has been a member of the El Dorado County Fire District since July 17, 2005. During his tenure with the District as a Firefighter Paramedic, Captain Duncan has been involved with the district training cadre, a tactical medic, Ladder 26 instructor, FTO, EMS Supply coordinator, Swift Water Instructor and numerous other programs and projects.

Following his promotion, Captain Duncan will be assigned to Station 25 C shift. There will be a formal promotional ceremony taking place in the near future.

Congratulations Captain Duncan!

# County Fire Chiefs Meet with Congressman McClintock

May 5, 2022. For more than the past year, local Chiefs have been attempting to work with the US Forest Service (USFS) regarding our annual agreements. For some historical perspective, in years past the USFS renews annual agreements with the local government agencies for responses and reimbursements within the USFS areas. Last spring there was a change in policy at the federal level, whereas districts that did not share borders were not included within the local agreements, the proposed agreements for district such as County Fire, had changes to the reimbursement methods and timeframes. The County Chiefs met with local USFS Reps on several occasions to attempt to mitigate the concerns with the new proposal. The issues lie with the policy makers in Washington, not our local USFS staff. The result last fire season was a hesitation and/or lack of commitment to dedicate resources to USFS incidents, beyond initial attack.

On the heels of the Tamarack Fire and Caldor Fire, locally, Congressman McClintock began to push for legislation to alter the perceived approach by the USFS to wildfires and containment.

During a recent El Dorado County Board of Supervisors meeting, staff from McClintock’s office made a presentation on the proposed legislation for support. I had the opportunity to speak with one of the staffers after the Board of Supervisors meeting, which subsequently led to a meeting with the County Chiefs and the Congressman. There was a robust discussion regarding the concerns with the local agreements and where the ability to change the agreements lie – locally or in Washington. The Congressman was in full support of removing “red tape” for local responses to mitigate wildfire early, not waiting for them to develop into catastrophic fires.



The discussion also involved funding for local, foothill fire districts; including PILT Funds, ERAF shifts, Proposition 172 funding and how these reductions in funding are impacting local fire districts – which make up 60% of the resources on campaign fires.

We did receive feedback from the Congressman’s office that communications had taken place to resolve the local agreement issues, we are waiting for official word and a new agreement...

Agency	Structure Fire	Vegetation Fire	Vehicle Fire	Alarms/Misc. Fire	Hazard	Rescue	Public Assist	Traffic Collisions	Medical	Other/Cover	Total
CAECF	40	85	45	538	241	21	718	533	7,190	4,008	14,031
CAEDH	34	23	27	190	59	4	761	176	2,955	463	4,282
CAAMC	25	46	38	230	103	3	584	275	2,050	578	3,932
CADSP	25	20	14	118	58	3	249	141	1,774	1,039	3,441
CACAM	16	5	12	85	22	0	343	81	1,951	942	3,367
CAJMS	10	2	1	44	17	0	237	28	948	67	1,384
CAION	5	3	3	25	23	0	205	15	515	344	1,138
CASUT	3	3	3	23	15	0	160	16	320	401	945
CAPIO	7	11	5	75	21	3	45	48	375	81	672
CAGRIV	5	11	2	42	16	3	41	47	312	100	570
CARES	3	9	6	48	11	0	54	42	364	41	578
CAJCK	6	9	2	25	20	3	50	56	320	41	541
CAGEO	6	8	3	15	22	2	48	40	306	15	405
CALFP	2	4	1	14	10	0	36	8	87	51	213
CAMGT	1	6	0	9	10	0	27	4	62	8	127
CABUV	0	0	0	0	3	0	54	1	38	0	96

# County Fire Leads to Pack on Call Volume...again

The 2021 Annual Report from Camino ECC has been released, and once again County Fire leads the way on call volume. Not only does County Fire have the highest call volume, when you look at the breakdown of Chief Officer responses, County Fire responds to the highest number of structure fires, vegetation fires, vehicle fires, and rescue calls.

The Call diversity and associated challenges are well documented on our social media platforms by Captain Poganski, however, all of you are out there running these calls and now firsthand the challenges you are routinely presented. Our core values are demonstrated daily by our personnel – keep up the hard work!

## Medic 49 Staffing Challenges

The latest updates

By now, most of you should be aware of the staffing challenges facing Diamond Springs and particularly Medic 49. There aren’t any updates from Diamond Springs since my last email to all of you regarding their staffing challenges. Diamond Springs is still actively recruiting for personnel, Firefighter Paramedic Thomas will be assisting Diamond Springs with their upcoming testing process, which will hopefully yield the necessary candidate pool for Medic 49. At the JPA level, we are still engaged in conversations on how to best navigate this potential interruption in service, while being as least impactful for our personnel.

Unfortunately, the Divide area has become quite vocal with regards to any medic unit movement, with a lot of misinformation circulating the various social media platforms. As we continue to discuss the item and identify plans you will be provided factual information.



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## County Fire Receives New Portable Radios

The latest updates



Last fall the Board of Directors approved the purchase of new portable radios, replacing the current BK's. Our current radios have been in-service for many years now and are rapidly becoming obsolete. Our radio personnel had been looking into and testing the BK-KNG model radios being used by Cal Fire and other agencies. Prior to our district making

a transition to the KNG model radio, we learned those were being discontinued and replaced by the new model BKR 5000. Perhaps a silver lining to us holding off on replacement of the current radios.

The order for 80 new radios with all the necessary accessories was placed last fall, with a goal of having them in-service and training completed by fire season. Like everything else these days, supply chain issues have created delays in delivery and in turn our goal of having them in-service by fire season isn't going to be obtainable. While all the radios have arrived, Captain Andreis is still waiting on chargers and a few other items. These delays will impact the programming and subsequent training for all our personnel. The new radios will go in-service once we have all the equipment and training completed.

Thank you to all our radio folks for their research and work on getting these new radios ordered and soon to be in-service, also for keeping our BK fleet operational!

## The County Fair is coming up

The latest updates

The El Dorado County Fair is back this year, and the theme is "The Magic is Back". The fair takes place on June 16 thru June 19. Chief Williams has been working with the Fair staff to secure our contract to provide medical coverage via U-272 (UTV), as in years past. Fire Prevention will also be spooling up for their inspections of the fair, prior to opening. This year the County Chiefs, County FPO's, Fire Safe Councils, Cal Fire and the County will have a joint booth(s) to promote fire safety and defensible space. The goal is to heighten public awareness on the heels of the Caldor Fire and upcoming fire season.



## District Wide Firefighter Health and Wellness Testing

The latest updates to get you through the day

The Districts Health and Wellness testing is coming up June 7 thru June 16. It's not too late to sign up and take advantage of this program. Chief Dutch has provided all of the necessary information to sign-up and have this testing completed in his email dated May 2, 2022. Firefighter health and wellness is critically important to having not only a long and healthy career, but also a healthy retirement. There are a lot of challenges that face our health and wellbeing as firefighters, taking advantage of this program, at no cost, is an important step in ensuring

A healthy lifestyle – on the job and at home. We are all busy in our day to day lives, but I would encourage everyone to take a little time and invest in yourself.

