



# **SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**

## **2007 ANNUAL REPORT**



The South Santa Clara County Fire District is dedicated to provide professional customer service through performance and accountability.

We provide fire and emergency medical services to protect life and property and we strive to reduce emergencies through fire prevention and public education.

# SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

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## **A Message from the Battalion Chief**

On behalf of the South Santa Clara County Fire District, I am proud to introduce our 2007 Annual Report. 2007 has proven to be a very busy and successful year for the Fire District. Thanks to the strong support from the community, our Board of Commissioners, and the dedication and hard work of our staff, the SSCCFD continues to provide its citizens the highest level of service.

The Districts operating budget for the 2006/2007 fiscal year was \$4,128,824 the primary revenue source for this funding was property tax. Approximately 90 % of the operating budget was allocated to the contract for services with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), with the other 10 % going to services and supplies. The District has a current reserve fund of \$1,500,000.

The call volume in the Fire District has been increasing every year for a total of 4,500 calls in 2007. The Fire District had 2 major incidents in 2007 that I would like to mention. In July we had the Murphy Avenue fire that consumed 80,000 square feet of green houses. It was one of the largest mutual aid requests the District has had. We had 1 civilian injury and no loss of habitable structures. The second fire was the Lick fire in July which burned close to 50,000 acres mainly in Coe Park. We sent District fire engines to Southern California 4 times in 2007 as part of the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

In 2007 the Fire District received 2 new pieces of equipment, a prime mover vehicle to tow the urban search and rescue trailer from the Counties Homeland Security Grant. We purchased a new Pierce Fire Engine that will be delivered the first part of 2008. The Fire District donated one of its older fire engines to the Uvas Volunteer Fire Department of Santa Clara County.

The District is active in seeking grants to improve service and offset costs to the budget. In 2007 we were able to finish up installing diesel exhaust systems in all of our stations funded by a FEMA Fire Act grant. We were also awarded an Office of Traffic Safety Grant for \$352,000. This was a cooperative grant with Gilroy Fire and all the Volunteer Fire Departments in Santa Clara County. This grant will provide the Departments with the latest safety and rescue equipment.

The District adopted Fire Code and entered into a cooperative agreement with the Santa Clara County D.A.'s office to provide inspectors for the District business inspection program, while we train our staff to provide the service. This has been a beneficial program to the community to assure fire safety in the Fire District. I would like to thank County Executive Kutra's and District Attorney Carr for their support with this program

I sincerely hope that the members of our community find this annual report informative and useful. We are committed to providing the highest level of service to all of you. Please do not hesitate in calling or writing us, to let us know how we are doing.

Respectfully,

Derek J. Witmer

Battalion Chief

**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance**  
**Governmental Fund**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2007**

	General Fund
Revenues	
Property taxes	\$ 3,743,918
Interest and investment income	88,763
Intergovernmental revenues	142,022
Charges for services (First Responder contract)	181,571
Other	147,343
Total Revenues	4,303,617
Expenditures	
Public protection	
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	3,200,470
Materials and services	495,786
Capital outlay	432,568
Total Expenditures	4,128,824
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	174,793
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	
Proceeds from capital lease	425,143
Net Other Financing Sources (Uses)	425,143
Net Change in Fund Balance	599,936
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	942,063
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$ 1,541,999

## **Mitigation Fees**

On September 14, 2004 the County Board of Supervisors approved the ordinance allowing for fire protection mitigation fees. On January 11, 2005 the Board of Directors of the South Santa Clara County Fire District (SSCCFD) adopted the *South Santa Clara County Fire District Capital Facilities Mitigation Analysis* and capital facilities and equipment plan. The County Board of Supervisors subsequently adopted a resolution on March 1, 2005 approving the January 11, 2005 resolution adopting mitigation Fees and Capital facilities and Equipment plan. Sixty days after the passage of the resolution the SSCCFD began collecting mitigation fees.

### **Revenues received from Mitigation Fees**

The fire protection mitigation fees collected shall be used to finance the capital facilities described or identified in the *South Santa Clara County Fire District Capital Facilities Mitigation Analysis* or may be used for other fire protection capital facilities plan as adopted by the Board of Directors of the SSCCFD.

### **Mitigation Expenditures**

No funds were expended for Year 2007; however, we have committed \$425,000 for the purchase of a new fire engine.

### **Mitigation Fees Collected Year 2007**

**\$ 56,061.74**

## Grants

This past calendar year, the Fire District was successful in being awarded a grant from the California State Office of Traffic Safety in the amount of \$352,494.00. This regional grant was written on behalf of the five volunteer fire agencies of Santa Clara County (Casa Loma, Ormsby, Stevens Creek, Spring Valley, and Uvas) and the City of Gilroy Fire Department, with the SSCCFD hosting the grant.

This grant will be funding new extrication equipment such as hydraulic spreaders, cutters, and telescoping rams. Also included is new rope rescue equipment and traffic safety equipment such as collapsible traffic cones, reflective safety vests, and helicopter landing lights. Part of the grant funding will include training on new and innovative extrication techniques that allow responders to remove injured accident victims in a timelier and safer manner.

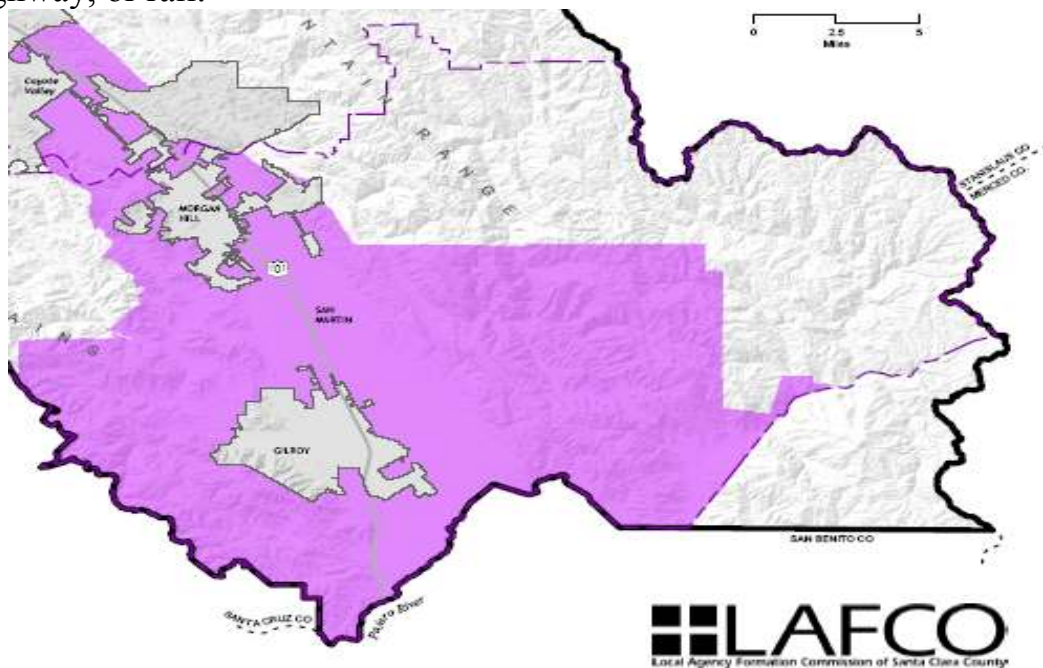
The District was also awarded one additional grant; an Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) grant in the amount of \$12,000.00 for upgrading the current mapping/computer aided dispatching components.

In cooperation with Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Services, a 2007 Ford F-550 response vehicle was assigned to the SSCCFD to be used to tow the County's Urban Search and Rescue equipment trailer, which is stationed at Station 2. Funding for the vehicle came from an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant.

In five years, the SSCCFD has been awarded \$655,364.00.

## South Santa Clara County Fire District Overview

The Fire District was established June 1st 1980, when the Gilroy Rural Fire District consolidated with the Morgan Hill Rural Fire District. The legal name of the consolidated Fire District is the “South County Fire Protection District of Santa Clara County” to be known as “South Santa Clara County Fire District”. The Board of Directors for the Fire District is the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County. The new Fire District contracted<sup>1</sup> with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to provide comprehensive emergency services and this contractual arrangement continues twenty eight years later. The South Santa Clara County Fire District protects 260 square miles, the unincorporated areas of Gilroy, San Martin, and Morgan Hill. A permanent population of 35,000 and a transient population of over 100,000 people a day commuting through the District by freeway, highway, or rail.



The Fire District is proud of its abilities to provide services for all emergencies. Within the District, there are 4 fire stations operating 4 fire engines with a paramedic on each unit at all times. Our highly trained and motivated Firefighters provide emergency services for residential, commercial, and wildland firefighting; for medical emergencies; automobile and technical rescue; and other hazardous conditions. The District has a staff of 35 employees and 15 paid call firefighters. The 2006/2007 operating budget was \$4,128,824.

## **Board of Commissioners**

The South Santa Clara County Fire District Board of Commissioners are appointed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The Board of Commissioners provides community input, oversight, and budget management.

South Santa Clara County Fire District Board of Commissioners Strategy

We will advise responsibly and in accordance with all Federal, State, and Local laws, codes, and ordinances.

We will ethically represent the residents of the Fire District at all times with Respect, Leadership, and Integrity.

We will be fiscally responsible, while providing the Fire District residents with highly trained and properly equipped personnel, meeting and exceeding industry standards.

## **Area Representatives**

**District 1-** Charles Jackson, Representing San Martin area, appointed 08-06-02

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

**District 2-** John Monaco, Representing Morgan Hill area, appointed 08-31-93

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

**District 3-** Janet Burbach, Representing Coyote area, appointed 05-06-03

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

**District 4-** Joan M. Lewis, Representing Gilroy area, appointed 01-06-87

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

**District 5-** Spencer Smith, Representing Redwood Retreat area appointed 02-08-05

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

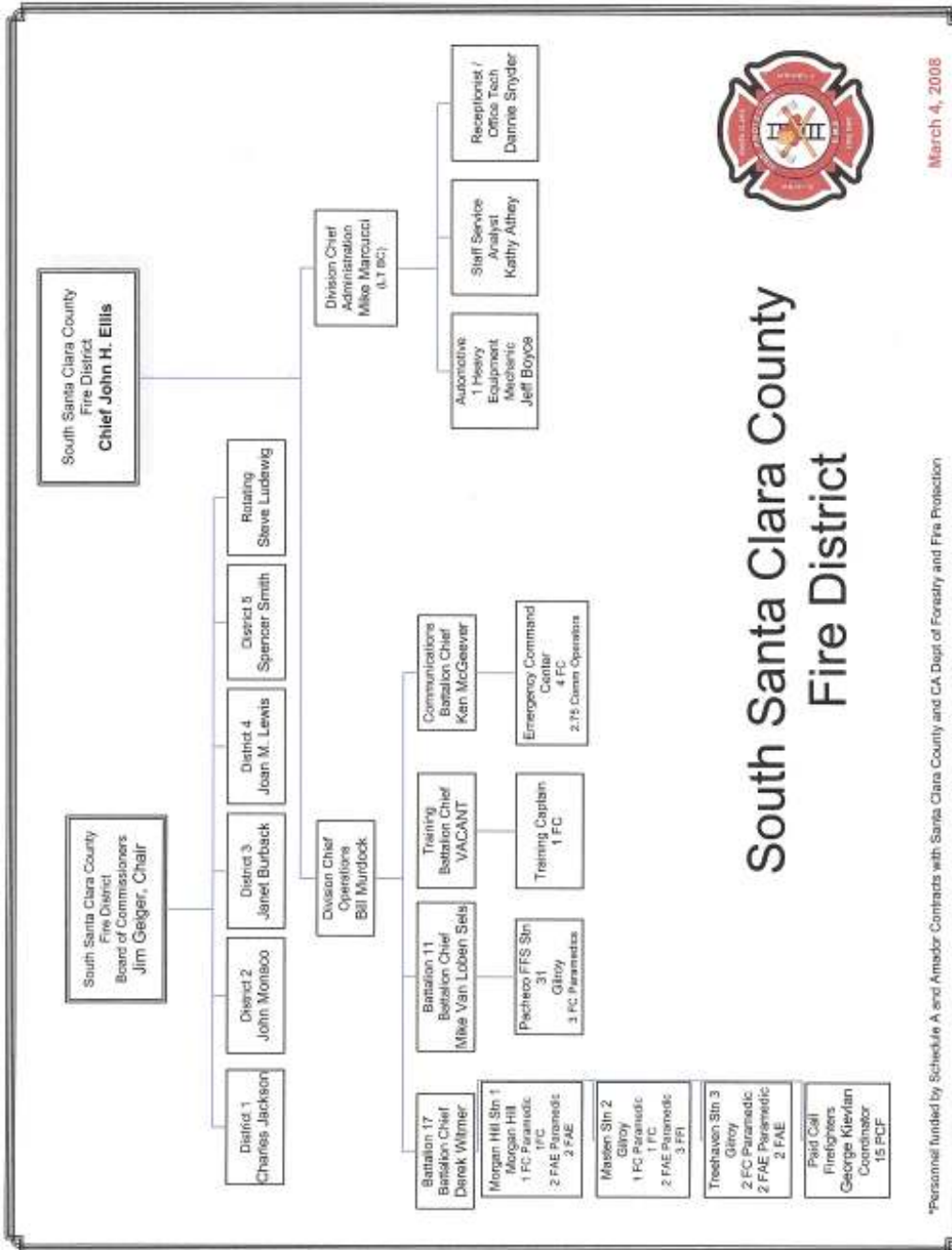
**Rotating-** James Geiger, Representing Pacheco Pass area, appointed 04-20-04

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

**Rotating** – Steve Ludewig, Representing East Foothills area, appointed 01-24-06

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

# Organization Chart



## Operations



**Structure Fire at Hecker Pass/Watsonville Road – FC/P Mike Mathiesen and FAE Paul Dellanini**

The South Santa Clara County Fire District's fire and rescue personnel work a 72 hour shift and are quartered at 4 stations. The District utilizes the closest engine concept to respond to calls within the Fire District. In order to make this possible the District works closely with surrounding fire agencies through Auto Aid Agreements. The District currently has reciprocal Auto-Aid agreements with Gilroy City Fire, Morgan Hill City Fire, San Jose City Fire, San Benito County Fire, and Pajaro Valley Fire District.

## STATION 1



### **15670 Monterey Street**

- Minimum staffing level of 2 personnel
- Engine company responds on a Type 1 Engine (E-1)
- Fulltime Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Engine
- 1 Water Tender (WT-1)
- 1 Stakeside

## STATION 2



### **10810 No Name Uno Avenue**

- Minimum staffing level of 3 personnel
- Engine company responds on a Type 1 Engine (E-2)
- Fulltime Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Engine
- 1 Water Tender (WT-2)
- 1 Reserve Engine (E-4)
- 1 Air Support Trailer (BS-1)
- 1 Heavy Rescue Support Trailer (RS-1)
- 1 Ladder Truck (Truck 2)
- 2 Utility Vehicles (U-1637, U-1608)

- **STATION 3**



**3050 Hecker Pass Highway**

- Minimum staffing level of 2 personnel
- Engine company responds on a Type 1 Engine (E-3)
- Fulltime Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Engine
- 1 Office of Emergency Services Engine (OES-327)

**STATION 31**



**12280 Pacheco Pass Highway**

- Minimum staffing level of 2 personnel
- Engine company responds on a Type 2 Engine (E-1681)
- Full time Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Engine

**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT  
2007 ANNUAL INCIDENT SUMMARY**

Incident Subtypes

**EMS – Medical Aids**

Life Threatening  
Cave-in/Extractions  
Vehicle Accidents with rescue  
Vehicle Accidents with injuries  
Program  
Minor Injuries  
Violence involved injury  
Vehicle Accident unknown injuries  
Vehicle Accident with multiple injuries  
Assist other Agencies

**Fires**

Vegetation fires  
Vehicle Passenger  
Enforcement  
Vehicle Commercial  
Structure  
Structure Multi-Occupancy  
Structure Commercial  
Train  
Debris  
Alarm Sounding  
Smoke Investigation  
Power Pole  
Assist other Agency

**Hazardous Materials**

Hazardous Condition  
Hazardous Material Chemical Spill

**Fire Menace Standby**

Bomb threat  
Power lines down  
Tree down

**Other**

Search and Rescue  
Out of Unit Response  
Referral / Transfer  
Vegetation Mgmt.  
  
Control Burns  
Hand Crew work  
Move up & Cover  
Oakland Flight Service  
Administrative  
Other

**Law Enforcement**

Any calls for Law



South Santa Clara County Fire District Emergency Responses.  
For the period JANUARY 1, 2007 - DECEMBER 31, 2007



Responding Agency:	SSCCFD alone with no other fire dept.	Co.Fire alone into SCC jurisdiction	Co.Fire w/SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction	GILROY alone into SCC jurisdiction	GILROY w/SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction	GILROY alone into SCC jurisdiction	GILROY w/SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction	SAN JOSE alone into SCC jurisdiction	SAN JOSE w/SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction	Total Responses FOR SSCCFD
Incident Type										
EMS	587	123	75	185	87	88	2017			
Public Service Assist	15	5	3	12	0	0	50			
Vegetation Fire	15	0	16	0	22	0	141			
Other Fires	91	9	46	29	17	0	4			
Structure Fire	25	5	4	8	16	0	0.5			
Fire/IGI/FMS	55	5	4	6	7	0	88			
Other	137	6	4	67	1	2	0.5			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>3174</b>			

Responses outside SSCCFD

Incident Type	SSCCFD Co.Fire Jurisdiction	SSCCFD Gilroy Jurisdiction	SSCCFD San Jose Jurisdiction	SSCCFD (SRA) AREA	Others	TOTAL AID GIVEN
EMS	443	117	0	227	83	870
Public Service Assist	8	0	0	1	0	14
Vegetation Fire	12	29	2	42	0	85
Other Fires	146	55	0	37	5	243
Structure Fire	52	72	0	5	25	154
Fire/IGI/FMS	41	35	0	4	8	88
Other	36	10	0	7	10	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>1384</b>

SCCFD alone with no other fire department = SCCFD responding to calls within the fire District with no aid from another fire Agency

Co. Fire alone into SCC jurisdiction = County Fire responded to a Fire Dist. call through an Auto-Aid Agreement. No SSCCFD equipment responded. (I.E. Medical aids 1 engine response.)

Co. Fire w/ SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction = County Fire responded to a Fire Dist call with the SSCCFD through an Auto-Aid Agreement. (I.E. Structure fires multiple engine response).

Gilroy alone into SCC jurisdiction = Gilroy Fire responded to a Fire Dist. call through an Auto-Aid Agreement. No SSCCFD equipment responded. (I.E. Medical aids 1 engine response).

Gilroy w/ SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction = Gilroy Fire responded to a Fire Dist call with the SSCCFD through an Auto-Aid Agreement. (I.E. Structure fires multiple engine response).

San Jose alone into SCC jurisdiction = San Jose Fire responded to a Fire Dist. call through an Auto-Aid Agreement. No SSCCFD equipment responded. (I.E. Medical aids 1 engine response).

San Jose w/ SSCCFD into SCC jurisdiction = San Jose Fire responded to a Fire Dist call with the SSCCFD through an Auto-Aid Agreement. (I.E. Structure fires multiple engine response).

SCC into Co. fire Jurisdiction = SSCCFD responded into Co Fire jurisdiction through an Auto Aid Agreement.

SCC into Gilroy Jurisdiction = SSCCFD responded into Gilroy Fire jurisdiction through an Auto Aid Agreement.

SCC into San Jose Jurisdiction = SSCCFD responded into San Jose Fire jurisdiction through an Auto Aid Agreement.

SCC into State Responsibility Area (SRA) = SSCCFD responded into SRA jurisdiction through an Auto Aid Agreement.

## ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) PROGRAM

In 1997, the Fire District began providing Advanced Life Support (ALS paramedic) services for all members of the community. Non-transport advanced life support consists of the safe and skilled administration of drugs and IV therapy, conducting and interpreting EKG's, electrical interventions including defibrillation, advanced endotracheal intubations and other advanced airway techniques. The Fire District works closely with the local ambulance provider (American Medical Response), Santa Clara County EMS, and the adjoining fire departments in utilizing this much needed resource.

On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 the SSCCFD and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection enhanced our Amador contract<sup>ii</sup> to include Paramedic service at the Pacheco station on the heavily traveled Highway 152.

The SSCCFD continues its contract for services with American Medical Response, by providing one Paramedic on our engines and striving to meet response times in predesignated areas. The contract<sup>iii</sup> provides the Fire District with \$46,000.00 per Engine for a total of \$184,000.00 for year 2007.

All Fire District employees completed the Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Service Agency mandatory EMS update class. This class covered policy and protocols updates and changes.

The SSCCFD purchased \$15,000 in medical supplies in 2007.

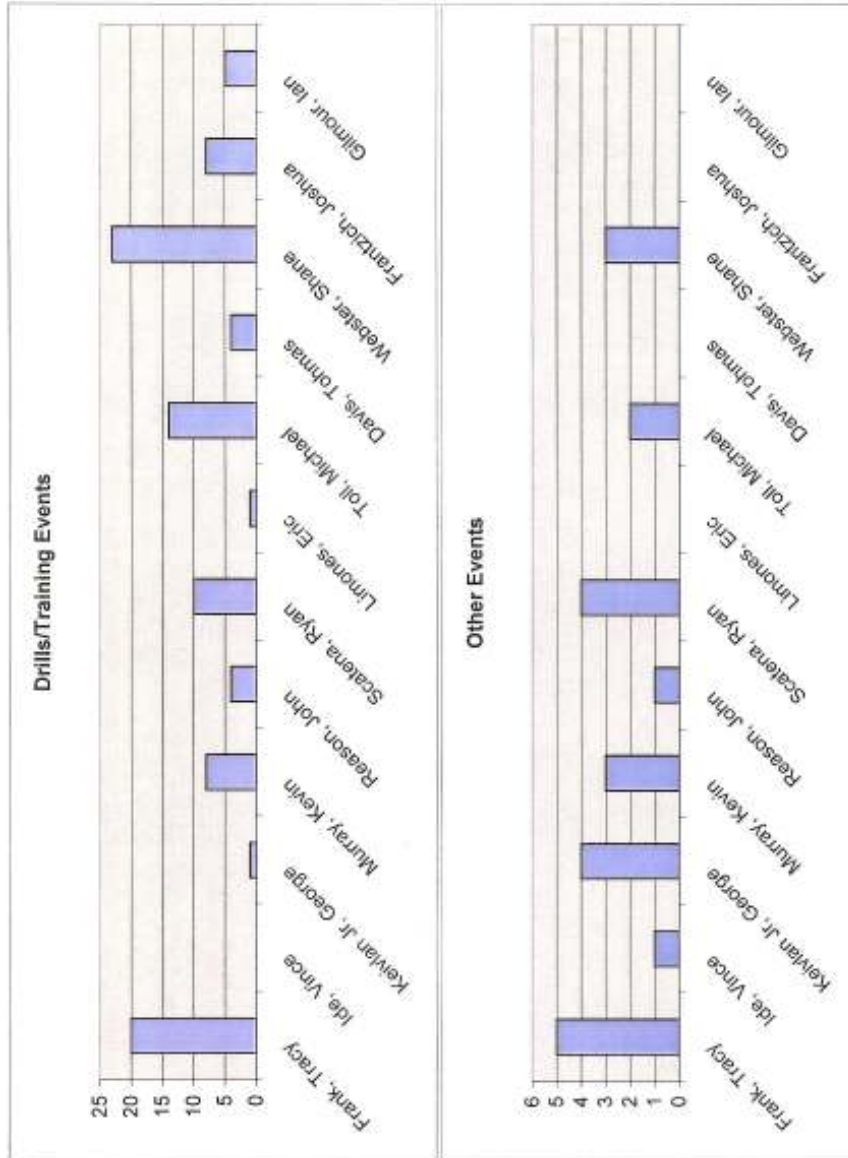
2007	PCR's	Code 3 Compliance	Late Minutes	Penalty
January	42	96.74%	7	0
February	52	97.22%	14	0
March	38	96.20%	8	0
April	32	97.78%	19	0
May	42	97.27%	14	0
June	50	96.84%	11	0
July	52	95.20%	37	0
August	50	95.96%	26	0
September	56	95.58%	16	0
October	43	97.20%	4	0
November	40	96.63%	11	0
December	35	95.10%	12	0
Total	532		179	

## PAID CALL FIREFIGHTER

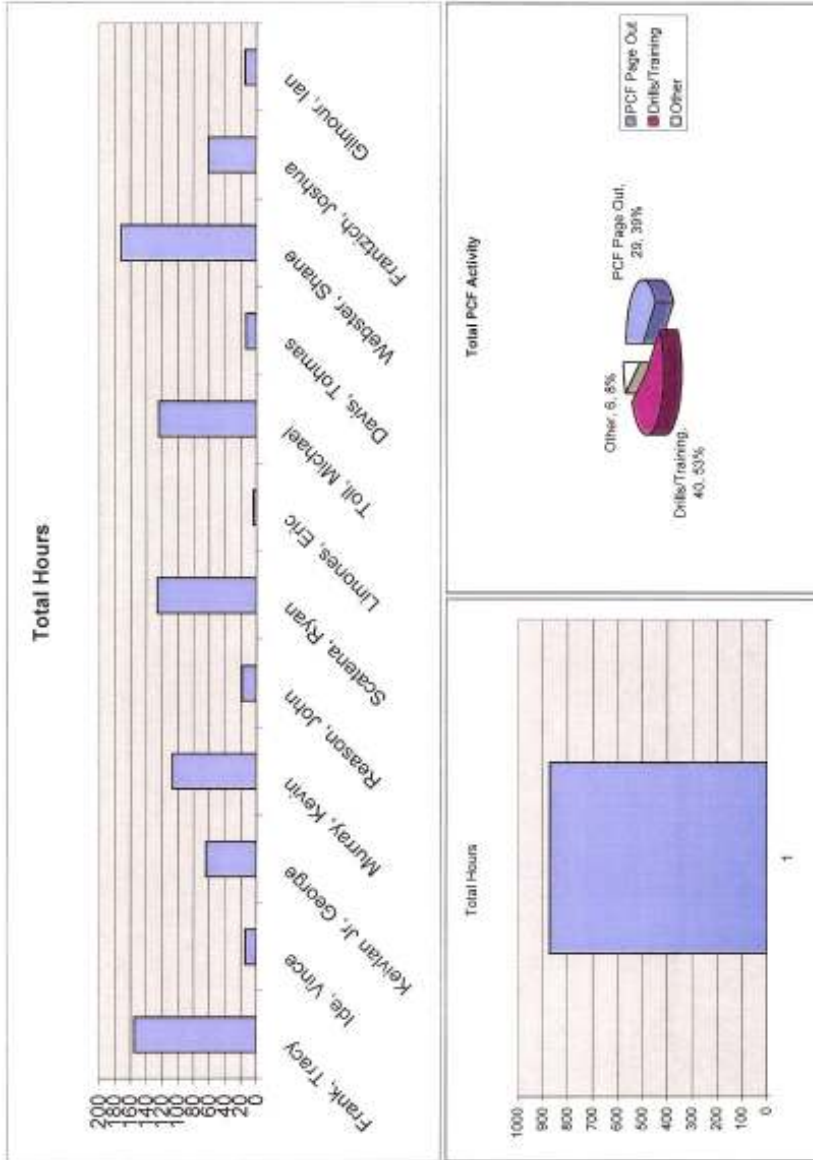
The Fire District is supported by its' Paid Call Firefighters (PCF's). In addition to emergency response, the PCF's are frequently utilized to staff stations when front line engines are on other emergencies. The PCF's are also involved in numerous charitable activities and fund raisers. The following lists the SSCCFD 2007 PCF's and their statistics for 2007.

<b>LAST NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>HIRE DATE</b>
Davis	Thomas	04-25-2004
Frank	Tracey	07-01-2000
Frantzich	Joshua	04-25-2004
Gilmour	Ian	04-25-2004
Ide	Vincent	07-01-2000
Kievlan, Jr	George	05-01-1972
Limones	Eric	05-04-2003
Murray	Kevin	11-10-2001
Reason	John	02-14-1999
Scatena	Ryan	07-01-2000
Toll	Michael	02-14-1999
Webster	Shane	04-25-2004

**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY PCF  
2007 STATISTICS**



**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY PCF  
2007 STATISTICS**



The following PCF are no longer active, but had some activity in 2007: Limones, Davis, Frantzich, Gilmour  
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## TRAINING PROGRAM

The most important non-emergency related activity for the Fire District is firefighter training and education. Today's firefighters need to maintain a high level of expertise, covering a multitude of disciplines, in order to mitigate the various emergency situations to which we respond. The goal of the Fire District's training program is to provide continual training meeting or exceeding local, state, and federally mandated training requirements to all District personnel so that they may effectively respond to all incidents, both emergency and non-emergency.

The SSCCFD accomplishes this by:

- Company Training
- Multi-Company Drills
- Classroom Training
- Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC)
- Training with Cooperative Agencies. (Law, Fire, EMS)

Training Topics include the following.

- Pumping
- Hose evolutions
- Ladders
- Truck Company Evolution
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)
- Wildland Firefighting Tactics and Operations
- Interface Firefighting (I-Zone)
- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Vehicle Extrication
- Rope Rescue
- Water Rescue
- EMS
- Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat)
- Terrorism & Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Incident Command System (ICS, NIMS)
- Defensive Driving
- Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)
- Ethics
- Paramedic Continuing Education

**South Santa Clara County Fire District Training Hours For 2007  
8,550 Hours**

## APPARATUS

The SSCCFD has a strict mobile equipment inspection and service program. Mobile equipment is inspected daily. We conduct 3 types of services on the mobile equipment (listed below). There is a daily safety inspection, 90 day compliance inspection, and an administrative inspection. Engines are scheduled to be replaced at 12 year intervals and water tenders at 20 years.

**Daily** – the following are checked daily and corrective action is taken if needed:

1. Brakes
2. Steering
3. Tires & Wheels
4. Battery
5. Exhaust System
6. Cooling System
7. Fuel System
8. Electrical system
9. Clutch
10. Engine
11. Cab & Chassis
12. Lubrication
13. General

**B Service - 4,000 miles or 90 days** – the following maintenance is performed:

1. Oil Change
2. Oil Filter
3. Air Cleaner
4. Fuel System

**C Service - 12,000 miles or annually** – all items in the B service plus the following to be conducted by the Fire District Mechanic.

1. Wheel bearings
2. Brakes
3. Steering Knuckle and U joints
4. Transmission
5. Differentials
6. Drivelines & U Joints
7. Engine Tune Up
8. Cooling System
9. Pumps
10. Pump cases
11. Chelsea Box
12. Fire Plumbing
13. Air filter gauge

# SSCCFD

## Mobile Equipment

Vehicle #	Year	Make	Model/ ICS Type	2007 Mileage	2007 Ending Odometer	Location
B1617	2003	Ford	Pick Up	16,592	61,678	Station 1
Engine 1	1994	Pierce	Type 1	13,081	169,776	Station 1
SQ -17	2008	Ford	Stakeside	0	0	Station 1
Water tender 1	2000	Pierce	Type 1	3,200	23,102	Station 1
Engine 2	1998	Pierce	Type 1	13,577	142,087	Station 2
Engine 171	1988	Grumman	Type 1	3,820	162,242	Station 2
Water tender 2	2002	Pierce	Type 1	1,902	15,397	Station 2
Engine 3	2003	Pierce	Type 1	15,783	70,367	Station 3
OES 327	2006	HME Westgate	Type 1	7,129	7,525	Station 3
Utility 1608	1996	Chevy	SUV	5,767	195,820	Station 2
Utility 1637	1992	Ford	Pick Up	1,875	120,140	Station 2
Repair 1632	2004	Chevy	Pick Up	32,021	89,788	Shop
BS 1	2002	Haulmark	Trailer			Station 2
SCC-LITL-U02		H & H	Heavy Rescue Trailer			Station 2

## EQUIPMENT

The following equipment is tested and serviced annually to industry standards and or NFPA specifications.

### Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

This year we had our SCBA's tested by Mallory Fire. The SSCCFD maintains 30 SCBAs. Every paid firefighter is issued their own SCBA mask with a voice amplifier for better and safer communications on the fire ground. In 2007 our goal is to obtain a grant to purchase new SCBA's with higher pressure capabilities with 3000 psi bottles that would allow staff longer working times. The new systems would have a Heads Up Display (HUD) that would allow fire fighters to see an indicator in their masks indicating how much air they have left, without having to look away from their surroundings.

### Ladders

- 4 - 35 FT. ladders
- 7 - 24 FT. ladders - including the training and OES Engine ladders
- 9 - 14 FT. roof ladders - including the OES Engine
- 5 - 10 FT attic ladders

All ladder testing is conducted by Mike's Ladder Service from Hollister, CA. Mike's Ladder Service also conducts testing of the ladders on Truck 2.

### Hose

All fire hose is tested in house by Fire District personnel. 1" single jacket and 1 ½" single jacket are borrowed hose from CAL FIRE Schedule B; they are not inventoried by SSCCFD and were not tested in 2007.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount Tested</u>
1 ½" Double Jacket	700'
1 ¾" Double Jacket	3750'
2 ½" Double Jacket	800'
3" Double Jacket	2900'
5" Synthetic	None

## **Fire Engine Pumps**

6 fire engines and 2 water tenders passed their annual pump testing conducted by Burtons Fire Apparatus in Modesto, CA.

## **Mako SCBA Air Refill Station**

The SSCCFD maintains an air bottle refill system at the Fire District's Station 2. The system is serviced and air quality samples are taken and tested quarterly by Quality Air of Hercules, CA.

## **Breathing Support One**

The SSCCFD maintains a mobile air unit that refills our SCBA's on structure fires. The air unit was used 25 times in 2007. It is available through the mutual aid/auto aid agreements for other agencies and was used on two structure fires in Gilroy providing support for Gilroy Fire. The Unit is serviced by Quality Air of Hercules, CA.

## **Hydraulic Rescue Tools**

The SSCCFD maintains 5 hydraulic rescue tools. There is one tool at each station on the first response engines and one on the reserve engine. These tools are tested and serviced annually by Hi Tech Fire Equipment of Modesto, CA.

The SSCCFD also utilizes 4 14inch Rotary Saws used for forcible entry. There is one on each first response engine. These saws are made by Stihl and are used an average of 30 hours per year.

The SSCCFD also maintains 5 Stihl Chainsaws. There is one on each first response engine and one on the reserve engine. These chainsaws are used on average of 40 hours per year for Roof Operations (Ventilation). They are serviced by A-1 Saws in San Martin, CA.

## **FACILITIES**

In 2007 the SSCCFD made the following modifications and improvements to facilities.

### **STATION 1**

#### **15670 Monterey Street, Morgan Hill**

- Started the remodel project on the barracks. (Tile floors, can lights, paint).
- Started construction on the new auto shop.
- Installed 2 new garage door openers.
- Painted the exterior of the Administration Building.
- Remodeled the interior of the Administration Building.
- Installed new base station radio for Station 1.

### **STATION 2**

#### **10810 No Name Uno Avenue**

- Station 2 is the only Station owned by the Fire District.
- Interior building painted.
- Back yard fence replaced.
- Front yard landscaped.
- Interior remodel including recessed lighting, speakers and radios.

### **STATION 3**

#### **3050 Hecker Pass Highway**

- Storage shed installed.
- Driveway repairs made.
- Ceiling fans and track lighting installed.

### **STATION 31**

#### **12280 Pacheco Pass Highway.**

Is a State owned facility utilized by the Fire District through an Amador contract and all maintenance and upgrades are conducted and paid for by CAL FIRE.

- New subfloor, vinyl flooring and carpet installed in existing station.
- New toilets and showers installed.
- Interior building painted.
- Construction of a new station was started east of the current station.

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

The SSCCFD Fire Prevention program is managed by fire station personnel. The Fire District can not afford a dedicated Fire Marshal position. The duties of fire prevention are plan reviews, preplans, hydrants, Title 19 inspections, public education, information and fire investigations. The Fire District is a member of the Santa Clara County Fire Prevention Association, Public Education Association, Arson Task Force, Code Enforcement Task Force and the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council. The Fire District's mission statement describes our dedication to fire prevention as "we strive to reduce emergencies through fire prevention and public education". In 2007 the Fire Districts prevention program was improved with the adoption of the Fire Code, the addition of business inspections, and the continuation of Title 19 inspections. This improvement was made possible by the cooperative agreement with the County of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County District Attorneys office, and the South Santa Clara County Fire District.

### **2007 Summary of Activities**

EPU Criminal Investigators / Fire Prevention Inspectors Craig Farley and Russ Howard.

**Background:** Craig Farley and Russ Howard were hired as Criminal Investigators II in the Office of the District Attorney in January, 2007. They were assigned, half-time, under the umbrella of the Environmental Crimes Unit; specifically tasked with conducting fire and life safety inspections within the jurisdictional boundaries of the South Santa Clara County Fire District. It had been determined that many businesses and occupancies in South County had not been inspected for fire safety in many years, if ever, and the South Santa Clara County Fire District had not the resources nor funding to provide a dedicated inspection unit.

**Initial Activities:** Several administrative steps still had yet to take place at the County level in order to provide the proper legal authorities to inspect. The first of these, *the Authorization to Enforce State Fire Code in South Santa Clara County Fire District per Health and Safety Code 13146*, took place on June 1, 2007. Prior to this, Investigators Farley and Howard "laid the groundwork" for their program:

- Initiation of contacts within the Fire District.
- Obtaining a lengthy (albeit dated) inspection list from Fire officials.
- Making updates, deletions, and additions to the list by physically verifying the addresses and businesses represented.
- Conducting District and area familiarization activities.
- Focusing on potential “trouble spots”, where life safety issues dictated a priority inspection.
- Development and approval of combined agency letterhead.
- Development of appropriate “Notice of Violation” letters, and establishment of timeframes for re-inspection and non-compliance issues.

Collaborative efforts with South County Fire officials yielded an “Introduction Letter” that was mailed out to businesses in the District that potentially could be visited for an inspection, so that such a visit would not come as a complete surprise to merchants and building owners. This letter outlined the intent of the inspection program, listed several common violations that could be addressed, and provided directions, numbers and links to satisfy any initial questions.

Additionally, before any inspection data could be gathered and entered, some modifications to the District Attorney’s “Crimes” program needed to be made. These modifications allowed for the inputting of inspections performed, follow-up and re-inspections to be done, and the importing of Word-generated inspection letters. These modifications and the necessary training took place in June.

**Title 19 Inspections:** Following the granting of authority on June 1, State-mandated (“Title 19”) inspections began. These included schools, hotel/motel facilities, care homes, and places of assembly. Several of these inspections were completed (Casa de Fruta, Boccardo Family Living Center, Anchorpoint Christian High School, and others). Efforts were made to coordinate with SSCCFD crews to facilitate their participation in these mandated inspections, both for the training and familiarization value, and also to present a clear picture to the public of the unified efforts between the DA’s office and South County Fire.

**Fire Code Adoption:** Throughout most of 2007, efforts were on-going at the Board of Supervisors level to officially adopt the California State Fire Code for inspection authority within the SSCCFD. This adoption took place in

September, and became effective the first week of October. Regular inspections of all other businesses in the District could then begin. From the first week of October through the end of 2007, there have been:

- 32 complete inspections conducted
- Approximately 90 violations identified and addressed
- 35 letters sent
- 14 re-inspections performed (allowing for 30-45 day compliance periods)
- 4 “second notice” letters sent
- An effective 100% compliance rate to date (allowing for “second notice” compliance as well.)
- Two illegal and hazardous business operations shut down completely.

Most importantly, the program has been enthusiastically supported by virtually all South County business that has been contacted for inspections.

**Plan Reviews** - Plan reviews look for compliance with local and state requirements for road access (width, gates, and grade) and turnarounds, bridges, water supply, addressing, and fuel breaks. This may also include site inspections.

In 2007, 37 plan reviews were completed. 75 hours for program administration.

**Preplans** – In 2007, updates of existing and new facilities storing hazardous materials were received and updated into the District preplan process. There were fourteen new facilities, mostly communications related (specifically cellular telephone relay and transmitting sites).

In 2008, the District goal is to input preplan information into the CAD system so hazmat and target hazard notifications may be given to responding personnel at the time of initial dispatch.

**Hydrants** – In 2007, existing water districts, specifically Gavilan College, San Martin Water District and Santa Clara Valley Water District, made improvements to their systems.

The bulk of Fire District testing has been at the request of private homeowners fulfilling County Fire Marshal and building permit fire flow requirements.

These requirements pertain to new construction as well as large additions / remodels and is an ongoing process.

In 2008, the District goal is to update the District testing, maintenance and documentation project with the assigning of a new project manager.

**Public Education and Information** - Public education and information is a very important program in the Fire District. The Fire District provides station tours, school programs, smoke detector program and community programs, with information handouts, public speaking, “Sparky the Fire Dog”, and hands on demonstrations.

In 2007 the Fire District achieved the following:

- Purchased public education handout materials
- Provided smoke detectors to residences in need, assisted in placement, and installing if needed. Smoke detectors were provided to the community at no cost, thanks to donations from businesses in the community
- Participated in two safety fairs
- Conducted seventy six school programs and station tours
- Participated in two local parades

**Fire Investigations** - Every fire in the Fire District is investigated and a written report is made. The fire investigations start at the Engine Company Officer level and if needed proceeds to CAL FIRE’s Law Enforcement Bureau which is part of the Fire Districts contract. CAL FIRE’s Investigators are P.O.S.T certified and have full Peace Officer powers in the State of California. If any fire is suspicious in nature, they will be the lead investigators for the Fire District. This includes field interviews, evidence collection, case report documentation and preparation for the D.A.s office, and working with local and other State law enforcement agencies.

In 2007 Fire Prevention staff arrested one suspect for arson and wrote one citation for causing a fire.

## 2007 DISTRICT PERSONNEL

### Chief

John Ellis

### Division Chiefs

Carl Murdock  
Shana Jones

### Battalion Chiefs

Derek Witmer  
Dave McLean

### Training

Battalion Chief – Mike Van Loben Sels  
Fire Captain Rick Wennakamp

### Prevention

Battalion Chief William Wood  
Fire Captain Bryan Giambrone  
Fire Captain Doug Ferro

### Emergency Command Center

Battalion Chief Ken McGeever  
Fire Captain Mike Borrelli  
Fire Captain Jim Crawford  
Fire Captain Mike Marcucci  
Fire Captain Tom Walker  
Communication Operator Charles Snyder  
Dispatcher Clerk Anne Marie Bragaw  
Dispatcher Clerk John Logan  
Dispatcher Clerk Adam Torgrimson  
Dispatcher Clerk Anne Vandergoot

### Support Services

Kathy Athey  
Sarah Olais  
Dannie Snyder  
Jeff Boyce

### Station 1

FCP Mike Mathiesen  
FCP David Hori  
FCP James Rajskup  
FAEP Darrell Depew  
FAEP Paul Eaton  
FAEP Steve McConnial  
FAEP Mike Waters  
FC Anthony Anastasi  
FAE Paul Dellanini

### Station 3

FCP Tom Slice  
FAEP William Barteau  
FAEP John Huff  
FAEP Brandon Vaccarro  
FAE Scott Freels

### Station 2

FCP Darren McMillen  
FCP Scott Palmer  
FCP Scott Palmer  
FAEP Herb Alpers  
FC Gilbert Rodriguez  
FAE Andrew Battle  
FAE Tim Fox  
FAE Thomas Olk  
FAE Paul Provence  
FF Charles Carroll  
FF Joshua Cordeiro  
FF Angel Patino  
FF William White  
FF Marc Wong

### Station 31

FCP Jeff Isaacs



**South Santa Clara County Fire District  
15670 Monterey Street  
Morgan Hill, Ca  
408-779-2121  
www.sscfd.com**

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<sup>i</sup> Public Resource Code section 4142- The Director may enter into contracts with Counties, Districts, and Cities to furnish fire protection to structures and rural areas that would otherwise require the establishment of some type of fire department by local government. These are titled cooperative fire protection services Agreement for Local Agencies (Schedule A)

<sup>ii</sup> Public Resource Code section 4144- Allows the Director to enter into cooperative fire protection agreements (Amador Plan) with local agencies to provide for the non-fire season use of CDF equipment, personnel, and buildings for fire prevention and suppression.

<sup>iii</sup> Pre Hospital Emergency Medical Services Agreement: between American Medical Response INC. and the South Santa Clara County Fire District. This is a performance based agreement which establishes a relationship between AMR and the District under which the District will provide certain pre-hospital emergency medical services which will enable AMR to provide the emergency medical and transport services required under the County contract with modified staffing and modified response time requirements, and AMR will provide funding to the District for such services based on the cost differential between AMR's cost to provide service under the County contract with and without such modification in staffing and response times.