



# **SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**

## **2009 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

## 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

### Table of Contents

A Message Chief Witmer .....	2
Budget / Finance.....	4
Mitigation Fees	
Grants	
Fire District Overview.....	7
2009 Board of Commissioners.....	8
Organization Chart.....	9
Operations.....	10
Advanced Life Support (ALS) Program.....	18
Paid Call Firefighters.....	19
Training Program.....	21
Apparatus.....	22
Equipment .....	24
Facilities.....	26
Fire Prevention.....	27
District Personnel.....	30
Appendix.....	31

## **A Message from Chief Witmer**

On behalf of the South Santa Clara County Fire District, I am proud to introduce our 2009 Annual Report. 2009 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 2007/2008 fiscal year was \$3,747,848. 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 general reserve fund of \$2,354,045; it also has a mitigation reserve fund of \$153,452. With a strong reserve fund and prudent fiscal management the Fire District was able to pay off the new fire engine in 2008 saving the Fire District \$80,000 in interest fees.

The Fire District had 2 significant incidents in 2008 that I would like to mention. In June we had a dry lightning cell pass over the area causing the 794 acre Hummingbird fire and the 256 acre Whitehurst fire. I am proud to say that not one residence was lost to the fires. We sent District fire engines to the Summit fire and to Northern and Southern California in 2008 as part of the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

In 2008 the Fire District has upgraded its web site by posting the Board of Commissioners agendas and minutes on line allowing easier access to the community. The Fire District purchased a new mechanics vehicle to be delivered in early 2009. The Fire District donated one of its older fire engines to the Ormsby Volunteer Fire Department of Santa Clara County.

The District is active in seeking grants to improve service and offset costs to the budget. In 2008 we were able to implement the 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. We were successful in receiving a Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant to purchase personal protective equipment.

The District has continued its cooperative agreement with the Santa Clara County D.A.'s office to provide inspectors for the District business inspection program. This has been a successful and beneficial program to the community to assure fire safety in the Fire District. I would like to thank the County Executive Office and District Attorney Carr for their continued 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.

**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2008**

	General Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Fund	Total
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Revenues			
Property taxes	\$ 3,970,079	\$ -	\$ 3,970,079
Interest and investment income	95,296	5,713	101,009
Intergovernmental revenues	332,026	-	332,026
Charges for services (First Responder contract)	185,457	-	185,457
Other	<u>77,101</u>	<u>47,674</u>	<u>124,775</u>
 Total Revenues	 <u>4,659,959</u>	 <u>53,387</u>	 <u>4,713,346</u>
 Expenditures			
Public protection			
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	3,014,301	-	3,014,301
Materials and services	557,780	-	557,780
Capital outlay	113,552	-	113,552
Debt Service - Principal	-	38,585	38,585
Debt Service - Interest	<u>-</u>	<u>23,630</u>	<u>23,630</u>
 Total Expenditures	 <u>3,685,633</u>	 <u>62,215</u>	 <u>3,747,848</u>
 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	 <u>974,326</u>	 <u>(8,828)</u>	 <u>965,498</u>
 Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
Transfers in	-	162,280	162,280
Transfers out	<u>(162,280)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(162,280)</u>
 Net Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 <u>(162,280)</u>	 <u>162,280</u>	 <u>-</u>
 Net Change in Fund Balances	 812,046	 153,452	 965,498
 Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	 <u>1,541,999</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>1,541,999</u>
 Fund Balances, End of Year	 <u>\$ 2,354,045</u>	 <u>\$ 153,452</u>	 <u>\$ 2,507,497</u>

## **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**

In Fiscal Year 2007/2008 total funds expended were \$64,636; \$62,215 for lease/purchase of a new fire engine and \$2,421 for refunds to developers.

### **Mitigation Fees Collected Year 2008**

**\$ 50,095.00**

## **Grants**

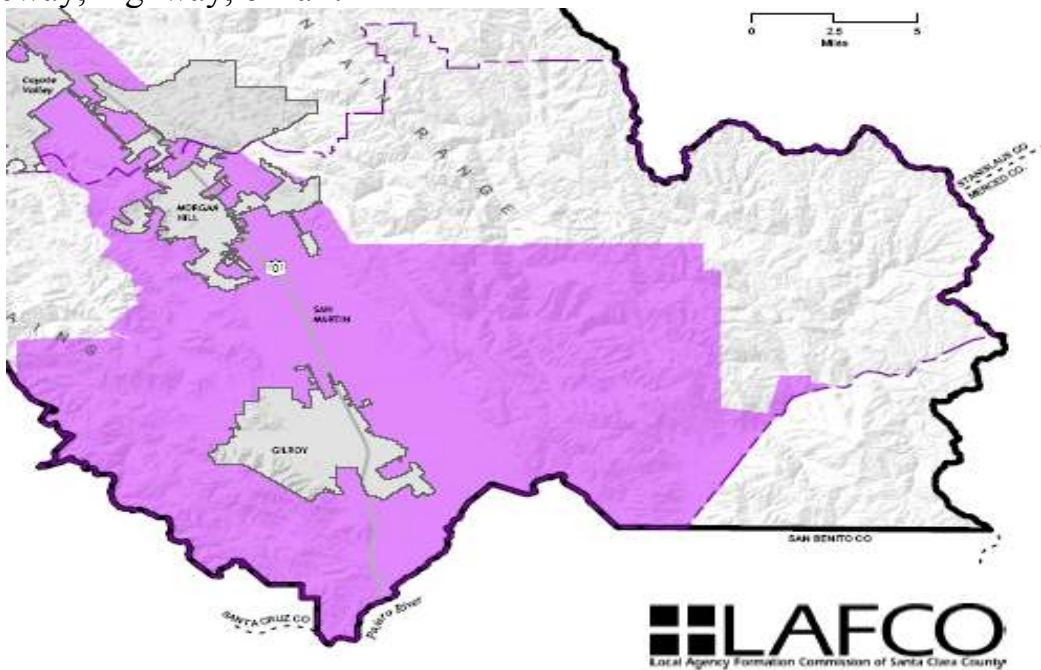
In 2007 the Fire District was successful in being awarded a grant from the California State Office of Traffic Safety in the amount of \$352,494.00. This regional grant was written on behalf of the five volunteer fire agencies of Santa Clara County (Casa Loma, Ormsby, Stevens Creek, Spring Valley, and Uvas) and the City of Gilroy Fire Department, with the SSCCFD hosting the grant.

In 2008 the District completed the purchases from this grant including new extrication equipment such as hydraulic spreaders, cutters, and telescoping rams. Also included was new rope rescue equipment and traffic safety equipment such as collapsible traffic cones, reflective safety vests, and helicopter landing lights. The grant funding also included training on new and innovative extrication techniques; that allow responders to remove injured accident victims in a timelier and safer manner. The training was completed in 2008.

The District was also successful in being awarded the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant to purchase personal protective equipment in the amount of \$9,963.00.

## 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 36,000 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 10 paid call firefighters. The 2007/2008 operating budget was \$3,747,848.

## **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 responsibly manage the affairs of the District 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 and provide the Fire District residents with highly trained and properly equipped personnel who meet or exceed 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

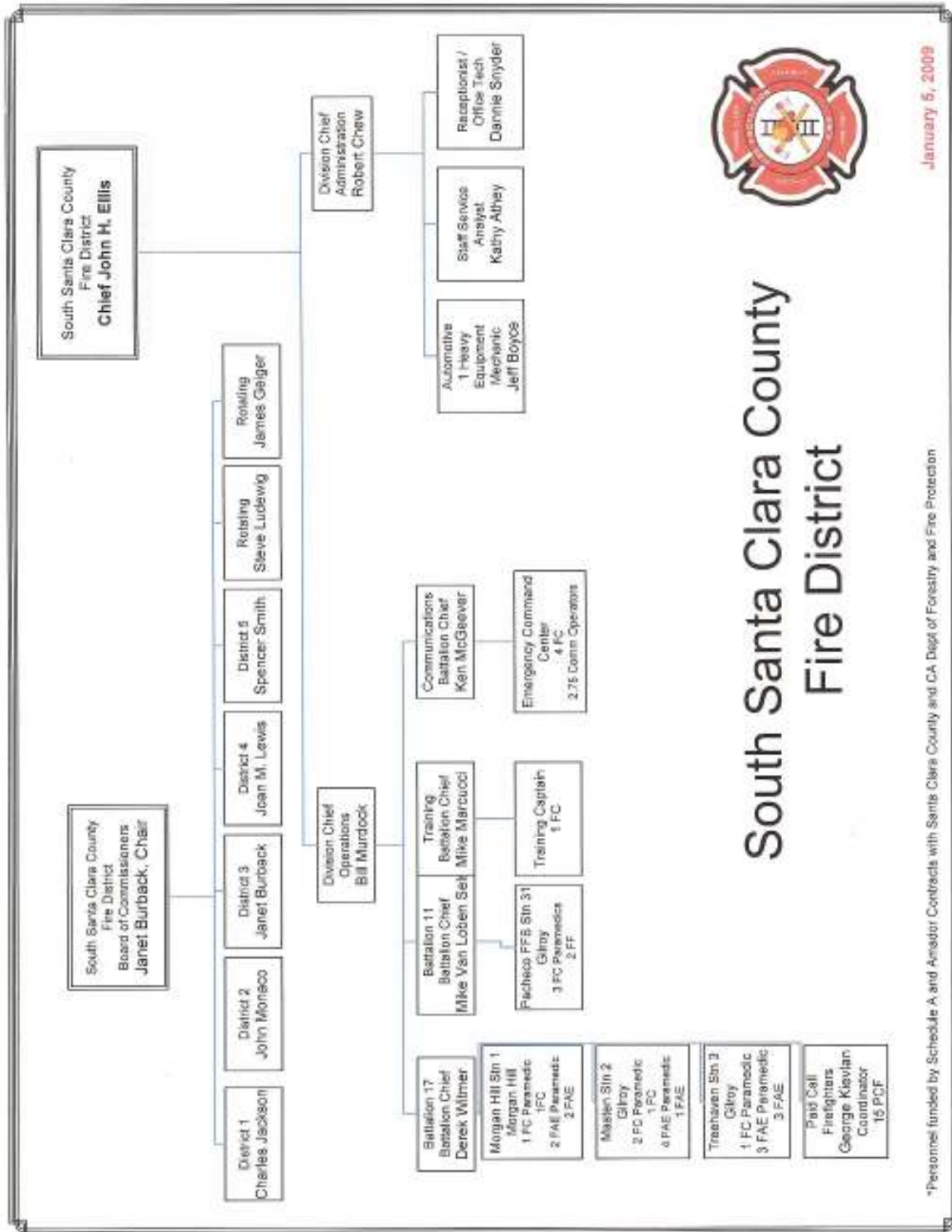
**Rotating-** James Geiger, Representing Pacheco Pass area, appointed 04-20-04

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

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

Appointed By: Supervisor Gage

# Organization Chart



January 5, 2009

\*Personnel funded by Schedule A and Amador Contracts with Santa Clara County and CA Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection

## Operations



**A small plane crashed into the CHP Weigh Station on Highway 101 on August 20, 2008.**

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 Utility Vehicle (U1637)

## 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)
- 1 Stakeside (U-1627)

- **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)
- 1 Utility Vehicle (U1608)

**STATION 31**



**12280 Pacheco Pass Highway**

- Minimum staffing level of 2 personnel
- Engine company responds on a Type 3 Engine (E-1681)
- Full time Advanced Life Support (Paramedic) Engine

**SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT  
2008 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**

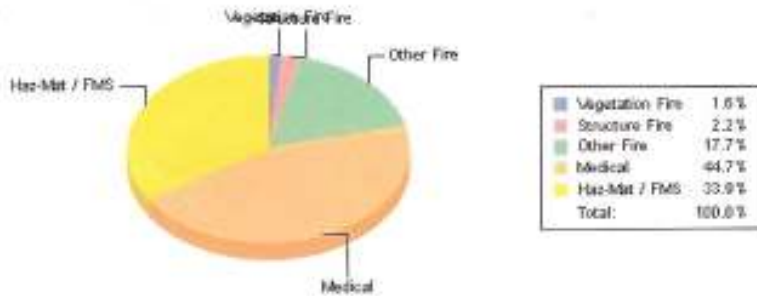
Any calls for Law

**RESPONSE AREA ACTIVITY  
 REPORT**

Response Area	Vegetation Fire	Structure Fire	Other Fire	Medical	Haz-Mat / FMS	Total
A2S	0	0	0	5	0	5
A6	1	1	5	19	9	35
A6M	0	0	2	22	14	38
A6S	0	1	3	7	10	21
A7	1	1	2	10	8	22
E15	1	0	0	11	66	78
E16	3	0	13	38	85	139
GILE	0	1	57	46	17	121
GILW	0	0	49	7	9	65
L3S	0	3	4	30	11	48
MHA	0	2	127	278	164	571
MJS	1	1	0	3	6	11
S12	4	10	28	100	57	199
S21	5	10	29	154	71	269
S23A	0	2	7	29	37	75
S23B	2	0	4	16	14	36
S23S	0	3	9	9	8	29
S2P	0	2	1	28	20	51
S32	2	1	1	2	3	9
SG1	1	1	2	13	8	25
SG2	0	1	2	2	1	6
SG3	2	2	6	27	15	52
SG4	2	0	2	14	8	26

**RESPONSE AREA ACTIVITY  
REPORT**

Response Area	Vegetation Fire	Structure Fire	Other Fire	Medical	Haz-Mat / FMS	Total
SG6	0	1	4	11	4	20
SG7	0	0	1	7	1	9
Z101	0	3	17	15	25	60
Z105	0	0	4	8	2	14
Z106	0	0	7	5	8	20
Z700	4	1	13	44	35	97
Z701	0	0	1	9	1	11
Z702	0	0	0	4	3	7
Z703	1	0	7	34	44	86
Z704	0	0	0	2	1	3
Z705A	0	2	0	1	1	4
Z706	3	0	2	8	6	19
Z707	1	2	3	18	14	38
Z709	2	0	0	0	0	2
Z710	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>2,322</b>



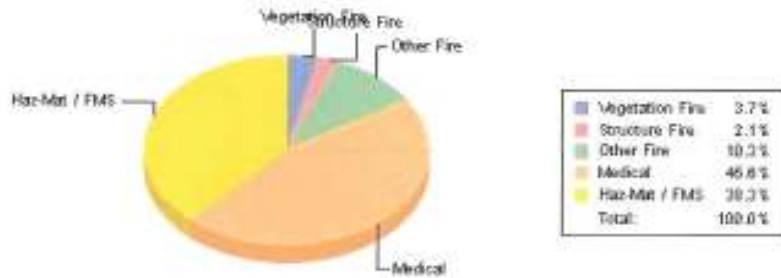
**RESPONSE AREA ACTIVITY  
 REPORT**

Response Area	Vegetation Fire	Structure Fire	Other Fire	Medical	Haz-Mat / FMS	Total
A1	2	3	4	16	13	38
A10	2	0	4	17	17	40
A3	0	0	0	7	1	8
A5	6	0	10	45	52	113
A8	0	1	3	11	11	26
A9	0	0	1	14	33	48
A90	1	0	0	0	1	2
A90S	0	0	3	3	32	38
E6	2	3	6	83	10	104
E7	1	0	2	10	2	15
H10	0	0	0	0	2	2
H11	0	0	0	1	0	1
H12	0	0	0	0	1	1
H15	3	0	18	35	49	105
H16	1	0	4	16	12	33
H2	0	0	0	0	1	1
H5	0	0	0	0	5	5
H9	0	0	0	1	0	1
I19	0	0	0	0	1	1
J10	0	0	0	3	6	9
L1	0	0	0	1	1	2
L2	0	0	0	0	1	1
L3	0	0	0	1	0	1

### RESPONSE AREA ACTIVITY REPORT

Response Area	Vegetation Fire	Structure Fire	Other Fire	Medical	Haz-Mat / FMS	Total
L4	0	0	0	0	1	1
L5	2	0	2	9	9	22
SB1	3	1	17	64	23	108
SC2	7	9	1	16	7	40
Z100M	0	0	1	1	4	6
Z102	0	0	6	5	10	21
Z103	0	0	0	2	0	2
Z104	0	0	1	6	3	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>805</b>

### Incident Graph by Response Area(s)



## 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 \$46,474.15 per Engine for a total of \$185,896.61 for year 2008.

The Fire District hired several new paramedics in 2008. New policies were also written for the Paramedic program including a cooperative agreement with AMR for education and training for the new paramedics.

The SSCCFD purchased \$23,600 in medical supplies in 2008.

2008	PCR's	Code 3 Compliance	Late Minutes	Penalty
January	41	97.59	5	0
February	30	100	0	0
March	36	98.85	2	0
April	38	95.96	6	0
May	33	95.60	8	0
June	34	98.57	2	0
July	41	98.17	7	0
August	40	100	0	0
September	43	100	0	0
October	26	97.94	0	0
November	32	98.63	5	0
December	38	95.60	30	0
Total	432		65	0

## 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 including the Gilroy Garlic Festival and the annual toy drive. In 2008 over 2,600 toys were collected for local children in need. The following lists the SSCCFD 2008 PCF's and their statistics for 2008.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HIRE DATE
Duboise	William	11-02-2006
Frank	Tracey	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
Stocks	David	07-01-2008
Toll	Michael	02-14-1999
Webster	Shane	04-25-2004

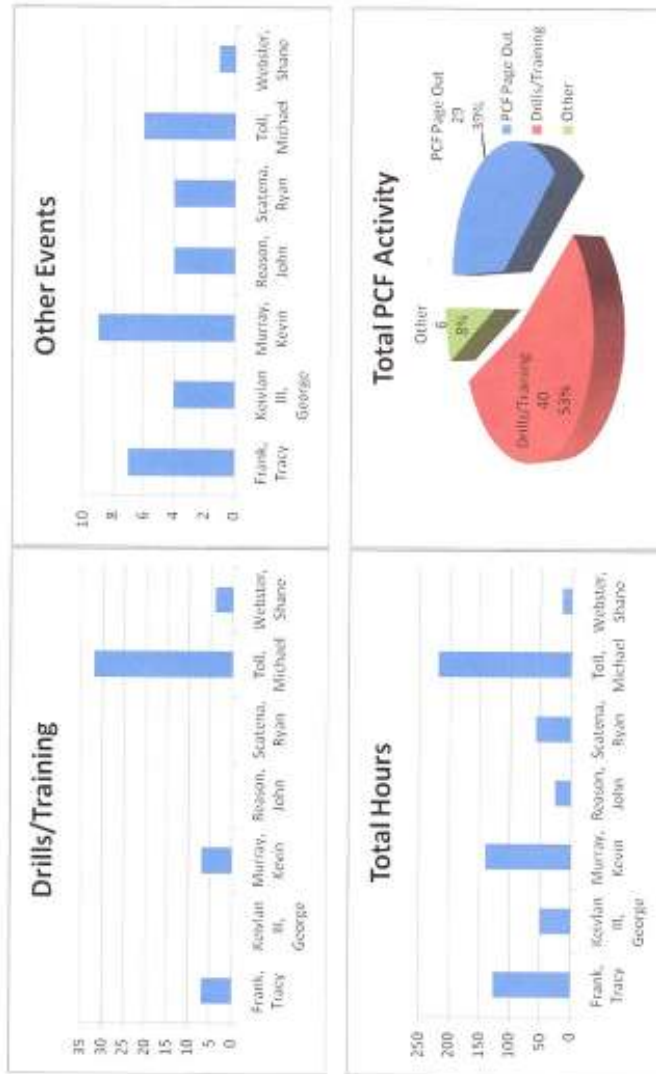


**2008 Toy Drive**



**2008 Garlic Festival  
First Aid Station**

SOUTH SANTA CLARA COUNTY PCF 2008 STATISTICS



## 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 District purchased new rope rescue gear this year and instituted a large area search policy

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 2008  
4,000 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	2008 Mileage	2008 Ending Odometer	Location
B1617	2003	Ford	Pick Up	16,368	78,046	Station 1
Engine 4	1994	Pierce	Type 1	6,925	176,701	Station 2
Utility 1627	2008	Ford	Stakeside	4,344	4,344	Station 2
Water tender 1	2000	Pierce	Type 1	3,027	26,102	Station 1
Engine 2	1998	Pierce	Type 1	11,158	153,245	Station 2
Engine 1	2008	Pierce	Type 1	10,430	10,430	Station 1
Water tender 2	2002	Pierce	Type 1	2,230	17,627	Station 2
Engine 3	2003	Pierce	Type 1	12,182	82,549	Station 3
OES 327	2006	HME Westgate	Type 1	8,978	16,503	Station 3
Utility 1608	1996	Chevy	SUV	6,144	201,964	Station 3
Utility 1637	1992	Ford	Pick Up	2,093	122,233	Station 2
Repair 1632	2004	Chevy	Pick Up	24,119	113,907	Shop
Truck 2	1987	VanPelt	Ladder Truck	150	69,823	Station 2
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 2009 our goal is to obtain a grant to purchase new SCBA's with higher pressure capabilities with 4500 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 2008.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount Tested</u>
1 ½" Double Jacket	1,150'
1 ¾" Double Jacket	6,750'
2 ½" Double Jacket	1,750'
3" Double Jacket	7,700'
5" Synthetic	2,000'

## **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 Stallion 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 5 times in 2008. It is available through the mutual aid/auto aid agreements for other agencies and was used on a fire at the Glenview School in Gilroy providing support for Gilroy Fire. The Unit is serviced by Stallion Air of Hercules, CA.

## **Hydraulic Rescue Tools**

The SSCCFD purchased 4 new sets of Hurst hydraulic rescue tools and 4 sets of Rescue 42 stabilizer jacks for auto extrication. 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 14 inch 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 and Abbots Saw in Gilroy, CA.

## **FACILITIES**

In 2008 the SSCCFD made the following modifications and improvements to facilities.

### **STATION 1**

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

- Completed the remodel project on the barracks.
- Completed construction on the new auto shop.
- Painted the exterior of the kitchen, barracks and apparatus bays.
- Painted the interior of the barracks bathroom and installed new base boards.
- Installed new wood flooring in the station office.
- Patched asphalt around compound and restriped the parking stalls.
- New roof on the Administration Building and PT room.
- Davey Tree trimmed trees on the compound. Wood chips used in planters around station.
- Converted gas house to station storage facility.
- Installed new hose rack

### **STATION 2**

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

- Station 2 is the only Station owned by the Fire District.
- Electrical wiring for garage door openers replaced.
- Parking lot asphalt repaired and striped.
- Installed new radio base station.

### **STATION 3**

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

- Replaced stove.
- Replaced portable air compressor.

### **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 showers installed.
- Interior building painted.
- Construction of the new station continued.

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

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".

### **2008 Summary of Activities**

**Background Information:** Following the successful introduction of a new Fire Inspection Program during calendar year 2007, inspection activities slowed significantly during 2008. The reasons for this were administrative in nature.

California Codes are designed and promulgated to be adopted by reference by ordinance, and the Board of Directors for the South Santa Clara County Fire District, as well as the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, undertook this task during the year. This was necessary due to the State's adoption of the 2006 International Fire Code, by reference and amendments, as the 2007 California Fire Code. Without a current local Code in force, Farley and Howard's inspections were limited to those South County occupancies mandated for inspection under Title 19 (State mandated). Some of these included:

- Lion's Club of San Martin. This heavily utilized assembly occupancy was found to have significant impairments to its fire sprinkler system, requiring extensive retrofit and repair. Management was ordered, in April, to provide critical "fire watch" personnel whenever the facility was occupied, and to expedite repairs to restore the system. Several follow-up inspection visits were made and all of the requirements of the State Fire Code were met by late May, 2008.
- Gavilan College. The entire campus of Gavilan underwent a great deal of construction and repair during late 2007 and throughout 2008. Investigator Farley liaised with facilities personnel and project supervisors regarding several assembly and exiting issues. These were successfully accomplished by October, 2008.
- Numerous South County churches (Morgan Hill Bible Church, Church of the Valley, San Martin Presbyterian, et al). Several of these assembly occupancies required more than one inspection visit in order

- to address, primarily, overloaded electrical circuits and the associated life-safety hazards.
- San Martin Community Preschool, where violations and deficiencies involving fire extinguishers were addressed and corrected.

Farley and Howard also continued to meet and confer regularly with South County Fire personnel in order to stay current on issues of potential concern within the District.

**Fire Code Adoption:** The South Santa Clara County Fire District Fire Code was adopted by the Board of Directors at its regular meeting on December 16, 2008. Farley and Howard once again have the authority to inspect and enforce the Code as it applies to occupancies throughout the District, with the exception of single family structures.

**Other Duties/Activities:** During 2008, Howard and Farley continued to participate in all aspects of mandated POST training (firearms and range days, legal updates, defensive tactics, driver's training, out-of-area schools and training). They also each have a one-half day "Duty Officer" responsibility every month for the Bureau of Investigations.

**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 2008, 33 plan reviews were completed. 50 hours for program administration.

**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 2008 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.

- Conducted eighty school programs and station tours
- Participated in the annual Anchor Point Academy toy drive and party.
- Participated in one local parade.
- Participated in the Fire in the Foothills Seminar.
- Participated in the San Martin annual Hot Rod show
- Performed area patrols for defensible space; providing guidelines for homeowners and educational material including “How to Live with Fire in Santa Clara County” and “Homeowners Checklist”.

In 2008 Fire Prevention staff conducted 10 wildland fire, 1 vehicle and 7 structure fire investigations. One criminal complaint was forwarded to the District Attorney’s Office from the Summit Fire.

## 2008 DISTRICT PERSONNEL

### **Chief**

John Ellis

### **Division Chiefs**

Carl Murdock  
Robert Chew

### **Battalion Chiefs**

Derek Witmer  
Mike Van Loben Sels

### **Training**

Battalion Chief – Mike Marcucci  
Fire Captain Nick Ciardella  
Fire Captain Tim Irwin  
Fire Captain Sam Gonzales

### **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 Sherri Amundsen  
Fire Captain Tom Walker  
Communication Operator Charles Snyder  
Communication Anne Marie Bragaw  
Communication Trisha Dei Rossi

### **Support Services**

Kathy Athey  
Sarah Olais  
Dannie Snyder  
Jeff Boyce

### **Station 1**

FAEP Jacob Baldwin  
FCP Mike Mathiesen  
FAEP Steve McConnial  
FAEP Paul Eaton  
FAEP James Novak  
FAEP Joey Perez  
FAEP Mike Waters  
FC Anthony Anastasi  
FAE Paul Dellanini  
FAE Sean Ketchum

### **Station 3**

FCP Tom Slice  
FAEP Darrell Depew  
FAEP Joey Perez  
FAE Scott Freels

### **Station 2**

FCP Darren McMillen  
FCP Scott Palmer  
FAEP Herb Alpers  
FAEP John Huff  
FAEP Colin Malone  
FC Gilbert Rodriguez  
FAE Timothy Fox  
FAE Thomas Olk  
FF Eric Limones  
FF Angel Patino  
FF William White  
FF Marc Wong

### **Station 31**

FCP David Hori  
FCP Jeff Isaacs  
FCP Tim Main  
FAE Joseph Felix



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

---

<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.