



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/15/2019

**Program Name: Community Risk Reduction Program Appraisal**

### **Program Members:**

Battalion Chief I. Harper, Chief Investigator F. Anderson, Fire Inspector R. Griffin, Fire Inspector C. Mason, Fire Inspector T. Irwin, Fire Inspector T Simmons, Fire Inspector B. Mollenkamp, Fire Investigator McDonald  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

### **Program Overview:**

The Community Risk program is a robust program that utilizes the operations and logistics divisions of the Savannah Fire Department (SFD). Within the operations division, fire suppression personnel conduct pre-fire plans, smoke alarm installations and conduct community outreach programs such as blood pressure checks and community canvassing of fire safety information materials. The Fire Prevention Office, a department within the logistics division, receives its authority under State Code Title 25 to enforce regulations under 120-3-3. The International Fire Code has been identified and is mandated under rules and regulations that are adopted by the State of Georgia. Through inspections, plan reviews and life safety checks, the Fire Prevention Office routinely supports Community Risk Reduction initiatives, adhering to local, state, and federal regulations and guidelines.

### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Completed Citywide Risk Assessment
- Meet local, State and Federal regulations
- Utilize International Code Council and NFPA standards to reduce fire risk
- Within Bureau, have staffed Fire Inspections Division
- Smoke Alarm Installation program
- Conduct Life Safety checks on after hours assemblies (bars and nightclubs)
- Risk reduction program initiatives through Pre Fire Plans, Title 25 Inspections/ Non-Title 25 Inspections and Tier II inspections
- Established Community Risk Reduction program
- Work with outside agencies ensure safety requirements are met
- Participate in Special Event planning and permitting
- Issue Permits for fireworks and pyrotechnics displays



### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Operated with insufficient staffing
- Need to create a Community Risk Reduction Specialist position
- Limited Standard Operating Procedures for the Fire Inspection Division
- Need to update Community Risk Program to meet Vision 2020 goals
- Lack of automation of documents, forms, and surveys (online)
- Limited funding for social media, phone applications, and website to disseminate Community Risk Reduction information to the citizens

### **Program Plan:**

- Increase staffing to meet growing demands by community
- Increase CRR program outreach through social media outlets
- Review and revise Community Risk Reduction Program to meet internal and external customer expectations
- Research new and updated technology that is compatible and will increase efficiency and effectiveness of Community Risk Reduction initiatives
- Create an improvement recommendation for a Community Risk Reduction Specialist position

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/17/2019

**Program Name:** Emergency Management Program

**Program Members:**

Emergency Management Director D. Donnelly; Assistant Chief C. Wallace, Battalion Chief E. Kitchen; Battalion Chief J. McCutchen; Special Operations Chief J. Bandy  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

**Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD), through the Emergency Management Director, is responsible for developing and maintaining the Savannah Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP). This all hazards plan was developed to ensure prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery activities from natural and man-made hazards that may affect residents of Savannah, are carried out in an efficient, effective and professional manner. This is performed by the various City Departments and Divisions assigned to each functional area. In addition, the plan addresses external agencies that carry out roles and responsibilities. These include Emergency Medical Services (EMS) which is a county contracted service, environmental and public health which is a shared function between county, regional districts, and state public health officials. Other agencies include Mass Care and Human Services which is the responsibility of the local office for Department of Family and Children Services. They are supported by volunteer organizations that are active in disaster, particularly the American Red Cross.

**Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Staff has responded and recovered successfully from two natural disasters
- Incident Management Team was involved in two activations and three exercises
- Dedicated Emergency Management Director Position within the City
- EM Director facilitates the City-wide Emergency Preparedness Team that meets monthly
- Have updated and implemented the Savannah Emergency Operations Plan and several annexes
- Robust inventory of equipment for disaster response
- Incident Management Team has access to WebEOC for tracking resources and developing Incident Action Plans
- Dedicated and professional staff ready to respond to incidents
- Training is provided to ensure compliance with the National Incident Management System
- Critical Workforce personnel has been clearly defined



### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Critical Workforce personnel and all employees need to be trained
- Need to acquire universal check in/out system to accurately track resources on incidents
- Not all personnel on Incident Management Team have been trained to specific level position
- Incident and functional specific response annexes need updating
- Each department needs to develop a Continuity of Operations Plan and relevant job aids

### **Program Plan:**

- Continue to engage departments in developing internal emergency response plans (2020)
- Provide position specific training to Incident Management Team personnel (2020)
- Assign personnel credential for Incident Management Team positions (2020)
- Continuing to conduct appropriate exercises for Incident Management Team to reinforce knowledge and skills (2020)
- Deliver ICS 402: Incident Command System Overview for Executive/Senior Leaders for Council and Policy Group (2020)

*Jeff Alberts*

Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/16/2019

**Program Name: Fire Communications**

### **Program Members:**

Assistant Chief Operations W. Handy, Assistant Chief Logistics Wallace, Battalion Chief C. Shelnut, Battalion Chief T. Leighty, Battalion Chief E. Kitchen and Captain M. Wilson  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) operates within an Enhanced 911 Communications Center that dispatches SFES units for services that are both emergency and non-emergency. All personnel have portable radio capabilities assigned to them. SFD has implemented Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's) in response apparatus to increase effectiveness and efficiency. Key personnel have assigned cell phones to maintain continuity of operations. Fire communications are also supported by a robust Information Technology (IT) department that services email, internet and logins to the City of Savannah servers. The current 911 center is operated by Chatham County.

### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Personnel have an assigned radio (120 new radios in 2019)
- MDT's in all frontline apparatus
- Radios meet current NFPA standards
- Communications meet National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements
- Agency interoperability to include cross patching with other agencies
- Member of **SEGRRN** South Eastern Georgia Regional Radio Network
- Policies are in place for fire communications
- Fiscal support for the communications system
- Use of technology in communications system
- Access to city email and city services through internet

### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- 911 center is no longer under the control of the city, now under county control
- Decreased access to the 911 center
- Need to decrease call processing time
- Lack of dedicated dispatchers for Fire
- High turnover rate at the Communications Center
- Needed implementation of Global Positioning Dispatching
- Need to upgrade E911 software to meet growing demands
- Not having a redundant radio system



**Program Plan:**

- Continue to representation on the 911 Board to communicate needs of SFD with the new upgrade to CAD and RMS by the county
- Continue Education for Dispatchers on Fire Operations and resources
- Expand and educate personnel on internal communications through MDT's
- Add Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) to MDT's for dispatching

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/17/2019

### **Program Name: Fire Investigations Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Chief Investigator Fred Anderson and Investigator K. McDonald  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) has established an Investigations Division in order to address the needs for timely, efficient, and professional investigation into situations arising from a fire, explosion, or other emergencies under the authority of SFD. SFD has staffed the investigation division with two full time employees who have been specifically trained to conduct origin and cause investigations and act as criminal investigators with the authority to investigate and prosecute arson within the municipal boundaries of the City of Savannah.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Staffed Investigations Unit
- Investigators are Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified
- Stand-alone Law Enforcement agency
- Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) access
- Close working relationship with outside agencies such as the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) bureau
- Have established Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in place

#### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Operational personnel have limited training in fire cause and origin determination/ fire scene preservation
- Non utilization of scene documentation and reconstruction software
- Lack of mobile connectivity equipment (laptop w/ air card or MDT) for effective and efficient documentation while investigating a scene
- The inability to have unmarked uniforms and equipment hinders fire investigations

**Program Plan:**

- Purchase scene documentation and reconstruction software
- Develop training class for operational personnel on fire cause and origin determination/  
fire scene preservation
- Purchase laptop computers for investigators to have mobile connectivity
- Replace investigators vehicles with unmarked vehicles

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/14/2019

### **Program Name: Fire Suppression Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Battalion Chief J. Dent, Captain M. Walton, Captain E. McKenna, Captain J. Brigdon, MFF T. Doherty, MFF I. Bladergroen, MFF B. Coyne and AFF T. Jaha  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) has appropriate policies, procedures, infrastructure, and resources in place to provide fire suppression activities. A state certified department, we are in compliance with local, state, and national standards. SFD is also Insurance Services Office (ISO) Class I and CFAI Accredited department. All personnel prior to entry into the profession are certified to state and national standards at the completion of a recruit school and validated by state recognized evaluators. Annually, personnel are recertified to said standards via a reevaluation process. Beyond personnel, all apparatus are certified annually to a national standard. Currently, SFD responds to a coverage area of 108 sq. miles and an annually call volume of approximately 8,000 calls. The current fire suppression division consists of 15 Engines, 5 Aerials and 2 Heavy Rescues which are managed by nine (9) Battalion Chiefs.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Equipment is modern and update to NFPA standards
- PPE is purchased and cleaned in accordance with NFPA Standards
- Water supply meets or exceeds required fire flow (Hydrants are identified by NFPA color code)
- Have surplus inventory of Firefighter equipment
- Resource location and deployment meet risk demands
- Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's) in all frontline apparatus
- Train National Professional Qualification (NPQ) standards
- Industrial Firefighting Equipment to supplement large scale fires and water supply
- Updated City Risk Assessment for asset deployment
- Ability to respond appropriately to all fire risk demands in initial response phase
- Upgraded Class A Pumpers from 1000 to 2000 gpm pumps
- Nozzle repair program at designation station



### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Need to update on Fire Suppression policies
- Increase cross training, live fire drills and multi-company drills
- Calendar conflicts due to overscheduling of units for activities
- Increase staffing to meet NFPA 1710 recommendations
- Increase ERF capabilities to be equitable to all portions of the city
- Increase training with outside agencies
- Update response packages to meet service demands and industry best practices

### **Program Plan:**

- Continue policy update and rewrite on fire suppression SOP's
- Continue to monitor response times and conduct deployment analysis
- Offer advanced fire suppression activities and support participation in these classes
- Research AVL pilot program
- Update fire suppression training props to include a new multifunctional container training simulator
- Establish resources and capabilities in New Hampstead area
- Begin utilization of time captures using the MDT for increased accuracy of response times

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/15/2019

### **Program Name: Fleet Program Appraisal**

### **Program Members:**

Assistant Chief Logistics C. Wallace, Assistant Chief Operations W. Handy, Captain M. Wilson, and MFF S. Johnson

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

### **Program Overview:**

The Savannah Fire Department (SFD) Fleet program is responsible for coordinating the maintenance operations for a mixed fleet of service vehicles and their equipment ranging from fire apparatus, automotive vehicles, trucks, emergency vehicles, power generation equipment, pumps, and small gas and diesel engines. The City of Savannah Fleet Maintenance department performs the actual maintenance functions such as DOT and NFPA required inspections, annual preventative maintenance, and other requested maintenance. Additional responsibilities of the Fleet division include writing apparatus and equipment specifications for new and replacement vehicles/ equipment, purchasing new vehicles, and the disposal of obsolete vehicles through GovDeals surplus program.

### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Vehicle and Equipment accountability program in RMS
- Purchasing Apparatus meeting SFD requirements
- Established internal SFD positions to manage the program
- City established a vehicle maintenance facility and enlisted technicians who were trained specifically to service Fire vehicles and equipment
- Apparatus and equipment replacement plan signed off in 2016 for 10 year progression
- Utilize outside vendor relationships to maintain, service, and repair apparatus
- Programs managed include: SCBA's, Ladder and Fire Pump testing, Nozzle and Appliance repairs, Small engine repairs, and preventative maintenance
- Specialty trained SFD personnel that work on specialized equipment that assists with fiscal management and reduced out of service times

**Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- City growth and increased repair demands have increased stressors on COS Vehicle maintenance personnel
- Emergency Vehicle Technician vacancies
- Lack of outside vendor utilization for reduced fire apparatus down times
- Vehicle maintenance shop needs updating with modern and computer interface equipment for faster job performance capabilities
- Fleet position within SFD needs to be elevated to a Chief Officer position

**Program Plan:**

- Continue to refine current apparatus specifications to ensure apparatus meet industry safety and best practices standards
- Provide documentation based on NFPA guidelines showing need for additional mechanics and repair staff in the Fleet Services maintenance division for aging fire fleet
- Provided documentation to support the need for continued apparatus and equipment replacements through the next decade

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/14/2019

### **Program Name: Hazardous Materials Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Special Operations Chief J. Bandy, Captain P. Grant, Captain R. Hansil, Captain J. Hannah, MFF N. Shaw, MFF B. Harris, MFF A. Payne, AFF B. Boyce, AFF T. Powell, AFF McClendon  
Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) currently has established SOP's in place for the response of personnel and apparatus to a hazardous materials emergency incidents. All SFD personnel will follow the established SOP's when responding to a HAZMAT scene. The established SOP's will ensure that adequate staffing and equipment will arrive on scene to meet the initial phase of any type or magnitude of hazardous materials emergency incident.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- The Haz Mat Team has a core group of instructors
- Developed relationships with local industry
- County Ordinance to conduct Tier II inspections and pre fire plans
- Maintains a large number of available resources
- Current equipment is in good working order and the department conducts annual currency checks
- Hazardous Materials are funded by local, state and federal entities
- Annual currency training is captured in RMS
- Team responds to local and region Haz Mat incidents through mutual aid
- Team currently meets FEMA Type I requirements

#### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Make Haz Mat Team smaller to intensify training and effectiveness
- Update Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)
- Do not have dedicated and functional reserve Haz Mat Response Vehicle
- Lack of Cross Training with TRT
- Increase the number of Haz Mat Specialists
- Lack of procedures for equipment to ensure they are current with latest updates
- Not utilizing UAS technology
- Increase the utilization of onsite training scenarios with the industry standard
- Not all frontline apparatus have meters and/or monitors for Haz Mat incidents



**Program Plan:**

- Develop Continuity Book for Haz Mat Program
- Assign and Update Hazardous Materials SOP's
- Place Haz Mat equipment into RMS to ensure proper replacement schedule
- Continue to send personnel to the Specialist level training in various disciplines
- Continue to evaluate and purchase modern Haz Mat equipment
- Continue to foster the relationship with industry to promote real life training scenarios
- Add E-Plan to all MDT's
- Research restructuring of Haz Mat Team
- Research and develop UAS program
- Place meters and monitors on frontline apparatus

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/15/2019

### **Program Name: Health Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Battalion Chief N. Gaskill, Captain J. Crain, Captain W.S. Howard, Captain S. Emberton, MFF E. McKenzie, MFF M. Winsor, AFF T. Carlson and AFF J. Hoffman

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Under the direction of the Logistics Chief, Savannah Fire Department (SFD) has identified a Health and an Incident Safety Officer (HO and ISO). Battalion Chiefs are responsible for coordinating the risk management program however, Captains and Master Firefighters conduct the day to day operations. These Chief Officers, with assistance from the safety officers and members of the department safety committee, assures that risk management topics are reviewed, accidents and incidents are investigated and incidents have a dedicated ISO present. The safety officers, using input from the safety committee, take appropriate actions and publish reports in order to reduce risks to all department members.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Dedicated budget line for Health initiatives
- National Fire Academy (NFA) certified Health and Safety Officers
- Utilization of NFPA 1500 in fire operations
- Annual physical and bloodwork assessments for all personnel
- Partnership with Candler Hospital to include records management
- Contracts with local workout facilities
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) in place
- Three PPE laundry facilities to maintain clean gear and decrease contamination
- City Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and department's Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team
- Cancer Reduction Initiative (CRI) (Hood Exchange Program, After the Fire Decon, personal wipes and increased cancer screening)
- Maintain dedicated Health and Safety Officer each shift
- All PPE is exchanged and/or replaced within NFPA and manufacturer's recommendations
- Tracking of Injuries and exposures in RMS

### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Need to develop vision and strategy at all levels to support Health Initiative
- Health program budget that is in addition to the annual physicals and workout contracts for training and program development
- Need to enter physical fitness activity into RMS for tracking purpose
- Need to incorporate culture change in regard to wellness
- Need to promote SFD “Brand” with wellness initiative example: setting the example for the community with our personnel working out, in nutrition classes and cooking health meals
- Lack of continuing education programs for trained Health and Safety Officers
- Lack of dedicated position for certified Health and Safety personnel
- Need to create Peer Fitness/ Wellness program
- Need knowledge campaign on CISM and EAP

### **Program Plan:**

- Develop a strategy and vision and assign team members to the various health categories
- Create a policy on implementing physical fitness training into RMS
- Incorporate Health and Wellness class into recruit school and annual training
- Research Gym Contracts with other fitness companies to ensure workout stability
- Create Peer Fitness/ Wellness Program
- Research cooperation with Community Risk Reduction program on SFD Brand
- Research continuing education programs for trained Health and Safety Officers

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/18/2019

### **Program Name: Marine Firefighting and Rescue Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Special Operations Chief J. Bandy, Captain C. Fennel, Captain J. Shaw, Captain S. Novak, Captain T. Horne, MFF C. Lamb MFF S. Sokolowski and AFF R. Scott

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) operates an adequate, effective, and efficient program directed toward Marine Firefighting and Water Rescue operations. These incidents include shipboard fires and/or endangered persons that need rescued or removed from maritime environments. These advanced firefighting and search techniques are conducted with highly trained personnel who receive specialized training in Marine Firefighting (NFPA 1005), search patterns, water rescue, and boat operations. Moreover, SFD utilizes a variety of modern pieces of equipment to ensure an effective and efficient response is conducted.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Maintains a sufficient number of resources to respond to a wide variety of maritime incidents
- Established strong relationships with local, state and private maritime partners
- Highly trained personnel in boat operations
- Ability to increase water supply along waterways

#### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Define and implement Dispatch protocol for Marine incidents
- Limited number of Boat Operators for marine platforms
- Have only one (1) marine firefighting vessel
- Need to develop a vessel replacement plan
- Need for a Firefighting Shipboard simulator or vessel contract (MOU) to conduct Marine Firefighting Level II and recertification.
- Maintenance and inventory program for marine assets

#### **Program Plan:**

- Train department to the Marine Firefighting Level 1
- Research and develop a vessel replacement plan



- Research and develop a plan or MOU for a simulator or vessel contract
- Need to increase Marine 1 Operators to a minimum of 12 personnel
- Sustain the asset for future deployment
- Research the feasibility of super staffing Engine 3 and Rescue 1 for boat maintenance and day to day ERF response operations

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/14/2019

**Program Name: Public Fire Safety Education Program Appraisal**

### **Program Members:**

PIO J. Few, Chief Investigator F. Anderson, Fire Inspector R. Griffin, Fire Inspector C. Mason, Fire Inspector T. Irwin, Fire Inspector T Simmons, Fire Inspector B. Mollenkamp and Fire Investigator K. McDonald.

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

### **Program Overview:**

Specific audience requirements are met through the delivery of a variety of program offerings, such as smoke alarm installation and home fire safety inspections. Department personnel work with various groups, businesses and organizations to provide targeted and appropriate fire safety education offerings in the community. The department's public fire safety education program touches all segments of the jurisdiction from pre-school to senior citizens through classroom and group presentations. The department maintains a relationship with the Safe Kids Savannah Coalition which is dedicated to childhood injury prevention. The department participates in the Safe Place program which is a national youth outreach endeavor that allows youth easy access to immediate help in times of personal crisis. Firefighters also conduct free blood pressure screenings at all department facilities and through regularly scheduled arrangements with numerous senior citizen and faith-based organizations.

### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Increased accuracy in event tracking in RMS
- Wide spectrum of educational outreach alternatives (Facebook, twitter and website)
- Participation in numerous community activities to educate all segments of the community
- Partnership with Savannah Chatham School board and other public private organizations
- Increased demand to provide PFSE events to the community
- Updated PFSE materials
- Member of the United States Fire Administration Community Risk Reduction consortium

### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Lack of educational specialist position on PFSE
- Inadequate website

- Limited funding for all PFSE programs; program is supplemented by grants
- Dual role, PIO acts as PFSE coordinator
- Fire Safety House upgrade is not complete; estimated time 2020
- No clear campaign of SFG PFSE services

**Program Plan:**

- Continue to apply for public fire safety education grants
- Complete Fire Safety House upgrades
- Diversify PFSE educational material
- Redevelop the PFSE program to meet current trends and needs
- Research website alternatives to meet expanding PFSE program
- Develop PFSE services brand and educate both internal and external customers

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/16/2019

### **Program Name: Safety Program Appraisal**

### **Program Members:**

Battalion Chief Kitchen, MFF C. Hanks, MFF K. Baker, MFF J. Sturgis, MFF T. Doherty, MFF M. Dodd, MFF Henry and MFF A. Payne.

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

### **Program Overview:**

Under the direction of the Logistics Chief, Savannah Fire Department (SFD) has identified an Incident Safety Officer (ISO). Battalion Chiefs are responsible for coordinating the risk management program. However, Captains and Master Firefighters conduct the day to day operations. The Chief Officer (Battalion Chief Kitchen) with assistance from the safety officers and members of the department's safety committee, assures that risk management topics are reviewed, accidents and incidents are investigated, and incidents have a dedicated ISO present. The safety officers, using input from the safety committee, take appropriate actions and publish reports in order to reduce risks to all department members.

### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Have dedicated Incident Safety Officer (ISO) to respond to incidents and accidents
- ISO's are trained to a national level in order to respond and document safety issues
- Have dedicated vehicle and equipment
- Have Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place to support Safety Program
- Continuing and Improving the Cancer Reduction Initiative (CRI) to department members
- SO's conduct monthly safety inspections of stations to maintain safe working environment
- Tracking of injuries and exposures in Records Management System (RMS)
- Completed the OSHA 1910.1200 program on Hazard Communications

### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Limited drying system for wet gear after a fire
- Need for additional Safety Officer Position to assist with response and incident requirements
- Currency Checks for all Safety Officers in the program

- No established refresher program within RMS to track training hours
- Utilize structural firefighting gear for all types of responses and weather conditions
- Update technology to improve dissemination of information
- Specific Safety officer capabilities such as TRT and Haz Mat
- Improve ability to track exposures using new software

**Program Plan:**

- Update Safety SOP's
- Annual currency checks for ISO's
- Research different types of Personnel Protective gear to meet weather and incident response requirements
- Research and develop program to have two (2) hazard specific (TRT/ Haz Mat) Safety Officers per shift
- Research ability to track exposures using new software

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire Department**

10/16/2019

### **Program Name: Self Contain Breathing Apparatus Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Captain M. Wilson, Captain J. Nutter Captain S. Waugh, Captain S. Floyd, Captain S. Miller, MFF S. Johnson, MFF J. Payne, AFF J. Chancey and AFF A. Barnes.

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) operates an adequate, effective, and efficient Self Contain Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) program. This program is a one of a kind program which utilizes the relationship of our vendor and the personnel directly involved in the SCBA program. Currently, SFD is transitioning into a new NFPA compliant SCBA. Moreover, the program has produced certified personnel to repair and inspect SCBA's internally. All of the SCBA's are managed through the Logistics Division and are being recorded into the department's RMS.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Dedicated trained personnel to the program
- Maintaining new NFPA compliant SCBA's
- Multiple SCBA filling stations - portable and fixed
- Program is a cost savings to the department (down time, maintenance and repairs)
- SFD SCBA program is unique - no other program like it in the nation
- Direct relationship with the vendor
- Program has operated without a catastrophic failure or major malfunction since its inception
- Assist other city departments with SCBA services
- Redundant systems for SCBA testing to limit disruption in services

#### **Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Limited RMS use in regards to maintenance and inventory
- Additional scheduling is needed to ensure Flow testing is not annual but is completed within 365 days to stay compliant
- Additional training is needed at the company level on proper daily SCBA cleaning, use, and inventory control to reduce maintenance issues

- Lack of uniformed system across the department to properly identify and track maintenance issues
- Flow testing needs to be a priority on the Fire Calendar
- Lack of a parts cache for repairing SCBA's

**Program Plan:**

- Develop an invoice in Firehouse that tracks repairs, supplies, and payments
- Create a SCBA Technician Task Book to train additional personnel
- Require a SCBA inspection training class annually
- Develop a uniform method for implementing, tracking and inventory control system for SCBA's

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



**Annual Program Appraisal  
Savannah Fire Department**

10/18/2019

**Program Name: Technical Rescue Program Appraisal**

**Program Members:**

Special Operations Chief J. Bandy, Captain R Howard, Captain B. Smith, MFF Levinson, MFF Davis, MFF Vaughan, MFF Winsor, AFF Boudreau AFF Carlson and AFF Duray.

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

**Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) operates an adequate, effective and efficient program directed toward rescuing trapped and/or endangered persons from life-endangering causes, ie. structural collapse, vehicle accidents, swift and submersion in water, confine space, high angle and trench collapse. These advanced life saving techniques are conducted with highly trained personnel who receive specialized training in each of the disciplines SFD responds to. Moreover, SFD utilizes two (2) heavy rescue apparatus with a variety of modern pieces of equipment to ensure an effective and efficient response is conducted.

**Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Utilization of Mobile Data Terminal during response
- The Special Operations Division has a large number of available resources
- Department has qualified Rescue Technicians
- Have SOP's in place for Technical Rescues
- Equipment is in good working order
- Technical Rescue capabilities meet City of Savannah risk hazards assessment for our region
- SFD is a member of the Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Task Force
- Will receive new apparatus and equipment
- Improve cooperation with other GSAR units for area response capabilities

**Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Additional need for Trench and Structural Collapse courses
- Limited budget for training
- Improve and update TRT training props
- The 911 communication center need reoccurring training on Technical Rescue responses
- More advanced and progressive training to update TRT program
- Lack of Instructors and instructor task book for credentialing and development

- Lack of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program

**Program Plan:**

- Maintain and seek to increase TRT training classes to include outside classes
- Develop Instructor Task Books for TRT
- Have personnel attend outside TRT training classes
- Apply for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for updated Training Center and props
- Develop and implement an UAS program

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
Battalion Chief  
Annual Appraisal Facilitator



## **Annual Program Appraisal Savannah Fire & Emergency Services**

10/17/2019

### **Program Name: Training and Recruitment Program Appraisal**

#### **Program Members:**

Asst. Chief Logistics C. Wallace, Battalion Chief W. Ifill, Captain H. Lopez, Captain J. Thomson, Captain M. Gutierrez, Captain M. Taylor, MFF S. Johnson and MFF M. Petty.

Facilitator: Battalion Chief J. Alberts

#### **Program Overview:**

Savannah Fire Department (SFD) incorporates a multi-faceted approach in identifying training needs for the Department. The training needs reflect the mandatory requirements set forth by the Georgia Fire Standards and Training Council and the Insurance Services Office. Moreover, training is implemented from post incident analysis where training issues have been identified on the fire ground. Training needs are also identified through course content reviews that identify changes within the industry in regards to mitigation techniques. To overcome these identified training issues, an annual training calendar is developed and issued to the SFD. Lastly, the Training Division is also responsible for the Department's recruitment and promotional processes.

#### **Program Strengths (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Training Staff includes a Training Division Chief, three (3) Training Captains and one (1) Administrative Assistant
- Ability to conduct Recruit Classes, Pro Board National Professional Qualification (NPQ) Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, NIMS classes and EMT internally
- Professional development pathway to include education and skills development
- Electronic tracking of training hours and program development located in the Record Management System (RMS)
- All training classes are taught to a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard or certified curriculum
- Training Division is supported with a budget
- Training facility with burn building, tower with multiple props, and storage building
- **Recruitment**
  - Recruitment Team is diverse and represents community served
  - Implementation of Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT)
  - Ability to screen new applicants with Professional Standards Unit (Fire Investigators)
  - Internet testing for new applicants
  - The cooperation of Human Resources with the applicant new hire process

- Tuition Reimbursement
- The utilization of recruitment props and the Recruitment Scope outlining the SFD “Brand”
- Recruitment is funded and supported
- Diverse recruiting opportunities to include military, civilian, and educational institutions
- Testing now includes character traits and/or motivators

**Program Liabilities (Equipment, Staffing, Training and Response)**

- Recruitment Team needs specialized training in recruitment techniques
- Dedicated budget for recruitment
- Increase use of social media and social marketing
- Need for Medical Services Educator
- Support SFD members in community athletic events to demonstrate SFD “Brand”
- One year assignment in Training needs to be longer to have a positive change
- Need more NPQ Proctors and the requirement to support outside agencies to remain current and keep evaluator status with the state
- Incorporate inventory control mechanism in RMS for training equipment
- Continuity Book for Training Captains
- Dedicated apparatus at Training Center to reduce dependency on frontline apparatus

**Program Plan:**

- Monitor NFPA and State for standard and rule changes that will affect SFD
- Work with Fleet division to secure dedicated apparatus for training
- Research training opportunities for recruitment team to include social media training
- Demonstrate the data for annual budgets for recruitment and training props
- Update website to enhance recruitment
- Utilize a Learning Management System to enhance training capabilities and community outreach
- Research longer time periods in training assignment to maximize assignment

*Jeff Alberts*

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Jeff Alberts  
 Battalion Chief  
 Annual Appraisal Facilitator