

# Chief's Staff Report for May, 2007

## Calls for Service – April 2007

Entity	EMS Calls	Fire Calls	Other	Average Response Time
Argyle	5	10	0	4.25
Bartonville	7	2	0	5.75
Copper Canyon	2	1	0	6.75
Corral City	0	1	0	2.75
Lantana	11	9	0	7.25
North Lake	5	1	0	7.00
Denton County	7	11	0	7.75
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7.00</b>

*The statistics listed above do not include calls that were disregarded while in route. The above response time is from the time of call to the time the first unit arrives.*

## Staff Activity

Entity	Total Calls	Average Time per Call	Average Responding	Total Hours
Argyle	15	2.75	9	371.25
Bartonville	9	2.00	8	144.00
Copper Canyon	3	2.75	7	57.75
Corral City	1	1.75	6	10.50
Lantana	20	2.75	11	605.00
North Lake	6	1.50	7	63.00
Denton County	18	2.25	8	324.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1575.50</b>

## Call Volume

Comparing the April 2006 call volume of 64 to the April 2007 call volume of 72, we see a 5% increase in call volume. The District additionally received mutual aid 2 times and provided mutual aid 4 times in the month of April. During the flooding in the last week of April, the District responded to twelve calls for service within six hours on Tuesday evening, including four calls for swift water rescue. The Denton Fire Department Swift Water Rescue Team was called in to assist on two of these incidents.

All calls have been answered within our average response times, and all medical calls were answered with advanced life support capabilities.

Total number of patients transported to the hospital in February was 24; 80% of all EMS patient contacts resulted in transport.

<b>Disposition</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
<b>Encounters</b>	31	36	39	30								
<b>Transports</b>	15 48%	23 63%	22 56%	24 80%								
<b>Refusals</b>	16 52%	13 33%	17 44%	6 20%								

## Warning Sirens

We reported last month that all avenues of securing grant funding to install warning sirens had been researched and exhausted. Due to high citizen response requesting the sirens in addition to weather alert radios and the Reverse 911 system, the AFVD Board will be working with the ESD Board to identify possible funding streams to accomplish this financial goal.

We have been working on the additional issues identified for use of sirens: activation, location, and maintenance. Activation of the sirens is preferred to be at an emergency dispatch center, however, this is not practical with the current Denton County dispatch system. We have been exploring alternative options for activation, including computer and phone activation systems, allowing Fire District command staff to activate the sirens from any remote location.

With regard to location and maintenance, the AVFD will work with individual towns to attempt to secure appropriate properties, after using GIS mapping to determine optimum placement within the District. The property and access points, as well as the

equipment, will require routine maintenance and repair, which will require a funding stream for the foreseeable future.

### **Reverse 911 System**

The aforementioned Reverse 911 system for the Fire District is intended to be implemented by the end of July, 2007. The system will be used to broadcast emergency information that affects either all or part of the Fire District via telephone calls.

Currently, the Fire District is developing standard operating procedures to enable the use of the Reverse 911 system to correlate with the Weather Alert Radios. An integral part of this procedure will include activation of the Reverse 911 system upon activation of the Weather Alert Radio to notify district citizens of any additional information and any actions that should be taken to ensure your safety.

### **New ESD Commissioner**

The Denton County Commissioner's Court has appointed an ESD Commissioner, Robert Downey, to fill the vacant seat on the Emergency Services District Board.

Mr. Downey lives in the unincorporated Denton County portion of the District. He offers the ESD Board the wisdom and capabilities of his 25 year history with the Irving Fire Department, and will be a valuable asset to the future growth and planning of the District. The AVFD looks forward to the opportunity to work with Mr. Downey during his term with the ESD Board.

### **FY2007-2008 and Future Budgeting**

The AVFD has been working closely with the Emergency Services District Board to finalize the FY2007-2008 budget in relation to proposed future growth and objectives for level of service within the District. Level of service and cost are being provided within various budget line items to aid the ESD Board in assessment of the budget.

### **Station 513 Update**

Development plans continue for the construction of Station 513, to service the East side of the District. Land acquisition is underway for the proposed new station at Copper Canyon Road near the future extension of Golf Club Trail. Once land acquisition is complete, proposals will be solicited in a formal RFP process for Architectural and Engineering services.

Three members of the AVFD attended the Fire Chief's Station Style Conference, in Denver, CO. The annual conference is held to aid departments in determining their needs for capital construction, with emphasis on how to get the most station for the money - controlling cost, while still maintaining quality and maximizing quantity (the square footage area needed for operations). Particular emphasis was placed on adding

low cost options to increase the usability of the space for training needs as well as daily operational duties. Information was also provided on OSHA and ADA requirements for fire stations, as well as trends in Operational Design, which designs the station's space based on the required uses for each portion of the space.

Information on needs assessment, program management and cost versus benefit for many construction types and elements within the station were of particular significance, and will serve AVFD well in making future decisions during the construction process.

### **Volunteer Membership Opportunities**

Volunteers play a vital role for our district, and will continue to play an integral role in the future growth of the district. Both the AVFD Board and the ESD Board recognize and encourage the contributions made by the men and women of the District who volunteer to come to the aid of their neighbors in need.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors since 1963...it isn't just a slogan, it is also an invitation. Volunteer opportunities exist within the AVFD for citizens living within the District. Within the AVFD, we have a high commitment to training, and experience is not required. Fire training is held on the first, second and fourth Tuesday of the month, with EMS training for certified personnel on the third Tuesday. The District encourages all members to achieve State certification as Firefighters, and medical training to the level of EMT-Basic or higher.

Each citizen joining the District as a volunteer will be required to attend our regular Tuesday night training for six months to achieve our base level of training, which is necessary before they can respond to calls. During this six month probationary period, opportunities are available for live burn and other specialized training, and to join station personnel and ride along on calls. AVFD is a Texas State Certified Training Facility, and provides Firefighter certification training, followed by an EMT-Basic medical certification course, at no cost to volunteer members.

To join the AVFD as a volunteer, simply drop by Station 511 at the corner of FM 407 and FM 377 to fill out a membership application, or join us on Tuesday night to get a taste of the type of training we do. We would love to show you around, and answer any questions you might have about the AVFD.

AVFD has a high commitment to safety, and the processes created to train and involve volunteer members have been designed to ensure the safety of all. Volunteering for the AVFD provides rewards - both in the help you give to your neighbors, and also the great personal rewards of being part of a dedicated family. Drop in and see for yourself!

We look forward to seeing you!  
Respectfully,

Mac Hohenberger  
Fire Chief  
Argyle Volunteer Fire District