

THE SPFD

A QUARTERLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

WWW.SOUTHPLACERFIRE.ORG

FIRST QUARTER 2025 • ISSUE 1 • VOLUME 2

FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

MARK DUERR

As we close the first quarter of 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress and achievements of our fire department. Thanks to the dedication of our members and the support of our community, we have made strides in improving our services and strengthening our connection with those we serve.

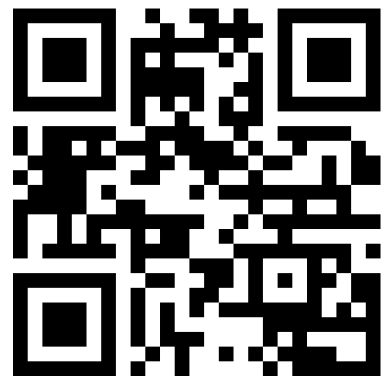
One of our significant milestones was the reopening of Station 19 with minimal staffing for an ambulance. This initiative has already improved first-unit-on-scene response times for 85% of our calls, ensuring faster and more effective emergency care. We also began implementing key elements of our strategic plan, which is guiding us toward enhanced operations and preparedness.

Our team has been actively engaging with the community through public meetings, presentations, and direct interactions. These efforts have fostered stronger relationships and provided valuable opportunities to hear your feedback. The exceptional work of our members has been noticed and appreciated, particularly their outstanding service during several critical medical calls. We are deeply grateful for the feedback from the community, which helps us continually improve. To make sharing your thoughts even easier, we have introduced a new customer satisfaction survey available online at bit.ly/spfdsurvey, through the QR code above, and on cards distributed by our members—just ask them for one.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to ensure safety and excellence in service.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

As noted below, we have introduced a new customer feedback tool. scan the QR code below to let us know how we are doing.



STATION 19 IS BACK OPEN

On March 8, the South Placer Fire District reopened Fire Station 19 at 7070 Auburn Folsom Road in Granite Bay, albeit with limited capacity. This reopening marks a significant adjustment to the District's operations following financial challenges that led to the station's closure in September 2022.

Background and Financial Challenges

In 2019, the District received a grant to enhance staffing levels, but the funding expired in 2021. Despite this, the District maintained staffing levels while preparing for a community tax measure to secure additional funding. When the tax measure failed in June 2022, drastic measures were taken to stabilize finances. These included closing Stations 15 (next to Granite Bay High School) and 19, reducing staffing by six positions, and relocating personnel from Station 15 to Station 16 (Olive Ranch Road) for improved response coverage.

Operational Adjustments

Due to budget constraints, Station 19 has reopened with an ambulance, but no fire engine. This decision aims to address two critical areas for improvement identified during evaluations: 1) response times along the Auburn Folsom corridor and 2) ambulance transport service in the southern part of the district. By moving an ambulance from Station 20 (King and Auburn Folsom) to Station 19 and adding an apprentice position, first-on-scene times for medical emergencies are expected to improve significantly. Additionally, firefighter staffing at Station 20 has been adjusted to ensure no service reduction.

Limitations and Future Plans

While the ambulance relocation enhances medical aid response times, fire suppression capabilities remain challenging at Station 19 due to insufficient funding. Staffing a fire engine would require approximately \$1.6 million annually—resources not currently available within the District's budget. The District continues to explore long-term funding solutions and may propose future ballot measures to improve service levels.

Impact on Community

The reopening of Station 19 improves emergency medical services in high-demand areas, but does not fully restore fire suppression capabilities. The District emphasizes its commitment to protecting the community while seeking sustainable financial solutions.

IN THE COMMUNITY

The members of the South Placer Fire District have been actively engaged in a variety of efforts to serve and connect with the community. From deploying resources assisting neighboring Southern California communities during wildfire emergencies to hosting open houses at Stations 16 and 19, they have demonstrated their commitment to both safety and outreach. Recent initiatives include hiring four new apprentices, educating the public on wildfire safety, and being featured in local media for the SPFD crews' impactful work. These activities highlight the dedication of the men and women of the South Placer Fire District to their mission: providing exceptional customer service to our community.



DISTRICT UPDATES



Maximos Bragg

Meet our new
apprentices



Mauricio Munoz



Pablo Perry



Joseph Silchuk

Employee Anniversaries

The First Quarter is our busiest period for anniversaries and we couldn't be more proud to celebrate our members service with the District.

Name	Years
Ray Spear	34
Kelly Moretti	28
Joe Stephens	26
Tracey Kincheloe	25
Andres Portillo	23
Patrick Patterson	22
Jonathan Crull	19
Jeremy Manchester	12
Michael Long	11
Brandon Johnson	10
Kevin Cooney	8
Shawn Cline	7
Kenneth Kaiser	7
Joseph Petersen	5
Justin Buathier	5
Taylor Bromley	4
John O'Leary	4
James Magnuson	3

THIS QUARTER AT SOUTH PLACER FIRE

The District experienced an 8% increase in total call volume over the same quarter last year which can be attributed mainly to an increase in medical responses and good intent calls. Good intent calls include being cancelled on the way and arriving to find no incident or no patient.

Total Calls - 1036

Fires - **10**

Medical - **724**

Hazardous Condition - 20

Service - **79**

Good Intent - **161**

False Alarm - **42**

Italics = No fire involvement

WANT TO HEAR MORE:

One of our strategic plan goals is to increase our community outreach through communications like this. If you want to be one of the first to find out what the District is doing or you don't want to have to fight for a copy of the newsletter at your local coffee or donut shop, scan the QR code below and get instant access.

